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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
THE RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 13 January 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the final communiqué and resolutions adopted at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in Jakarta from 9 to 13 December 1996 (see annexes).*

I should be grateful if you would have these documents circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 31, 33, 35, 39, 56, 58 and 74, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Makarim WIBISONO
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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* The annexes are being issued in the languages of submission only.

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Annex I

Bismillahi Arrahmani Arrahim

FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB TO 3 SHA'ABAN, 1417H
(9-13 DECEMBER, 1996)

At the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) was held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H, corresponding to 9-13 December 1996 under the high patronage of His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia.

2. The Conference was attended by:

(a) Member States:

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Republic of Albania
4. State of United Arab Emirates
5. Republic of Indonesia
6. Republic of Uganda
7. Republic of Uzbekistan
8. Islamic Republic of Iran
9. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
10. State of Bahrain
11. Brunei Darussalam
12. Burkina Faso
13. People's Republic of Bangladesh
14. Republic of Benin
15. Republic of Turkey
16. Republic of Turkmenistan
17. Republic of Tunisia
18. Republic of Gabon
19. Republic of the Gambia
20. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
21. Republic of Djibouti
22. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
23. Republic of Senegal
24. Republic of Sudan
25. Republic of Suriname
26. Syrian Arab Republic
27. Republic of Sierra Leone
28. Republic of Iraq
29. Sultanate of Oman
30. Republic of Guinea

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31. Republic of Guinea-Bissau
32. State of Palestine
33. Republic of Kyrgyztan
34. Republic of Kazakistan.
35. State of Qatar
36. Republic of Cameroon
37. State of Kuwait
38. Republic of Lebanon
39. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
40. Republic of Maldives
41. Republic of Mali
42. Malaysia
43. Arab Republic of Egypt
44. Kingdom of Morocco
45. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
46. Republic of Mozambique
47. Republic of Niger
48. Federal Republic of Nigeria
49. Republic of Yemen

(b) Observers:

i) State:

- Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Republic of Togo;

ii) Muslim Communities:

- Turkish Muslim Community of Kibris;
- Moro National Liberation Front.

iii) International and Regional Organizations:

- United Nations (UN);
- League of Arab States (LAS);
- Non-Aligned Movement.
- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO);
- Arab Maghreb Union.

(c) Subsidiary Organs:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre, for Islamic Countries, Ankara;

- Research Centre on Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul;

- Islamic Institute of Technology, Dhaka;

- Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade, Casablanca;

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- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, Jeddah;
- Islamic Fiqh Academy, Jeddah;
- International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage, Istanbul;
- Islamic Solidarity Fund, Jeddah;
- Islamic University of Niger;
- Islamic University of Uganda.

(d) Specialized Institutions:

- Islamic Development Bank, Jeddah;
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Rabat;
- Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation, Jeddah.

(e) Affiliated Institutions:

- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi;
- Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities.
- Sports Federation of Islamic Solidarity Games.
- Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, Benghazi;
- Islamic Shipowners Association, Jeddah.
- World Federation of Arab-Islamic International Schools.
- International Association of Islamic Banks.

(f) Islamic Foundations and Societies, as invitees:

- World Islamic League - Makkah Al-Mukarramah;
- World Islamic Call Society, Tripoli;
- World Muslim Congress, Karachi;

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- International Islamic Council for Da'wa and Relief, Cairo;
- International Islamic Charitable Foundation, Kuwait;
- Islamic Council of Europe, London.
- International Islamic Relief Organization, Jeddah.

(g) Invitees:

- Republic of Croatia;
- Republic of Slovenia;
- Macedonia;
- Sanjak;
- Kosovo.
- True Representatives of the Kashmiri People;
- U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR);
- U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);
- United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF);
- U.N. Development Programme (UNDP);
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO);
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- World Health Organization (WHO);
- Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS);
- International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO);
- UK Action Committee for Islamic Affairs.
- Indonesian Council of Ulemas;

3. The Conference was opened by His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia. In his opening speech, President M. Soeharto welcomed the delegates to Jakarta. President Soeharto underlined the new challenges and opportunities emerging in the world today which constitute new challenges for the OIC. He called for

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the application of more efficient procedures and working methods in managing the work of the OIC with a view to maintaining its relevance in this world of rapid change. He also expressed concern over the armed conflicts in many parts of the world, including the OIC Member States. He stated that the agreements between Israel and Palestine were irrevocable international accords which cannot be changed and must be respected. He emphasized that for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East to be possible, Israel must withdraw from the Syrian Golan and Southern Lebanon. He called for a comprehensive and lasting solution in Afghanistan which could be achieved only from the determination of the concerned parties to engage in a dialogue for the survival and future of the Afghan people themselves. He stressed that the support of the international community was needed to achieve the central objective of the peace agreement for Bosnia and Herzegovina so as to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity and political unity as a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious state. He recalled the historic agreement signed under the auspices of the OIC between the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front. He paid tribute to the statesmanship and wisdom of President Fidel Ramos and Professor Nur Misuari for their efforts in securing a just and honourable peace in Southern Philippines. President Soeharto underlined the problems of poverty, under-development, economic stagnation, high indebtedness and limited access to education which continue to saddle the majority of the developing countries, including OIC Member States. He called for the promotion of constructive dialogue through a genuine North-South partnership and a strengthened South-South cooperation. He stated that the existing potential for economic cooperation among developing countries in general and OIC Member States in particular has so far not been maximally exploited. He called for increasing the participation of the private sector in the development efforts of the Member States.

4. The Conference then heard the speeches of the Ministers and Head of Delegations of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran, who took the floor on behalf of the African, Arab and Asian Groups respectively, to thank the President, Government and people of Indonesia for the brotherly welcome and generous hospitality extended to them.

5. In his speech the OIC Secretary General, Dr. Hamid Algabid paid a warm tribute to His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, for kindly according his high patronage to the Conference. He also expressed his thanks to His Excellency the President for the laudable efforts made by his country for the OIC Committee of Six on the problem of the Muslim of Southern Philippines which culminated in the signing of the historic Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of

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the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front. The Secretary General expressed his deep gratitude to the leaders of the Ummah for the confidence placed upon him during the eight years of his tenure and which enabled him to undertake a wide range of institutional, structural, administrative and financial reforms of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs as well as the Specialized and Affiliated Institutions. Taking up the international situation, the Secretary General, while noting with satisfaction the progress made in settling some major issues of concern to the Islamic Ummah, expressed regret at the continuation of a number of disputes and conflicts. In this context, he evoked the efforts exerted by the OIC within the framework of the Middle East situation, the questions of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and South Lebanon, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Somalia, Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the questions of Cyprus, of Muslims in Southern Philippines, and Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.

6. His Excellency Mr. Lamine Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the Twenty-third ICFM conveyed the greetings and best wishes of success from His Excellency President Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea to his brother His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia. He also expressed his high appreciation to the honourable Government of Indonesia for the efforts exerted to ensure the success of this Conference. His Excellency Mr. Lamine Kamara stressed the importance of the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which is being held, he said, at a critical juncture of qualitative mutations taking place in the international scene. He reviewed the achievements of the OIC since the last ICFM in Conakry. He equally stressed that despite the results realized on the economic, cultural and social levels, the Ummah continues to face several challenges which have to be addressed.

7. His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference.

8. The Conference elected the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Gabon, the Republic of Yemen and the State of Palestine as Vice-Chairmen. The Foreign Minister of the Republic of Guinea was elected Rapporteur General.

9. Following his election as Chairman of the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas stressed the importance of economic and social cooperation among member states and expressed satisfaction at the results achieved in this area. He expressed his conviction that the human and economic capacities of the countries of the Ummah /...

constitute a reliable basis for establishing a group of powerful nations. His Excellency Ali Alatas also expressed his confidence that the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers will adopt the relevant resolutions that will contribute to further revitalizing the Organization.

10. The Conference heard the messages of the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

11. The Conference decided to adopt the opening speech of His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, as an official document of the Conference.

12. The Conference decided to place the current session under the motto of fraternity and cooperation.

13. The Conference then approved the report of the meeting of the Senior Officials, presented by its Chairman, His Excellency Ambassador Izhar Ibrahim, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia at the meeting of Senior Officials.

14. The Conference adopted the draft agenda proposed by the meeting of Senior Officials.

15. The Conference decided to keep the seat of the Islamic State of Afghanistan vacant without prejudice to the question of the recognition of the Government of Afghanistan.

16. The Conference adopted a Declaration on Bosnia-Herzegovina appealing to the international community to defend the universal principles embodied in the Dayton Peace Agreement. (Text of the Declaration is annexed).

17. The Conference adopted a Declaration on the current situation of the Middle East Peace Process. (Text of the Declaration is annexed).

18. The Conference expressed its thanks to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for his generous donation of US$ 10,000,000 in support of activities carried out in the framework of Joint Islamic Action. (Text of the vote of thanks is annexed).

19. The Conference welcomed and expressed its satisfaction at the signing of Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front and commended the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and all those countries which had contributed towards the successful conclusion of this Agreement. It requested member states, the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic /...

Conference and other specialized Islamic institutions to provide the Republic of Sierra Leone with assistance and necessary logistics to enable it to implement its developmental programmes in the areas of resettlement, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

20. The Conference heard with fraternal sentiments the statement by His Excellency Atay Rasit who presented the just cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus.

21. The Conference also heard a presentation made by His Excellency Mr. Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, on the agreement between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Government of the Philippines.

22. The Conference noted with satisfaction the report of His Excellency Mr. Lamine Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea, Chairman of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the activities of the Organization during the period between the two Ministerial Sessions.

23. The Conference also noted with satisfaction the reports presented by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the items of the agenda and on the activities of the General Secretariat between the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

ORGANIC, STATUTORY AND GENERAL QUESTIONS:

24. The Conference unanimously admitted the Republic of Suriname as a full member of the OIC.

25. The Conference unanimously granted observer status to the Central African Republic and the Republic of Togo.

26. The Conference noted with satisfaction the reports of the Secretary General on organic, statutory and general issues. In this respect, the Conference expressed its appreciation of the Secretary General's report on the implementation of resolution 1/23-ORG adopted by the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers relating to the functioning of the OIC, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions. It expressed satisfaction at the measures taken by the Secretary General for the implementation of these important decisions and invited him to pursue his efforts in this respect. It also decided to convene an expert group meeting to draw up the criteria for admission to full membership of the OIC and to submit a report thereon to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

27. The Conference took note of the report of the Eminent Persons Group on the evaluation of the work done by

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the OIC since its inception, and the identification of its needs so as to improve its efficiency and performance. It also took note of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Image of Islam in the outside world and expressed its deep appreciation for the attention and care given by His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and of the Al-Quds Committee, to the work of both Groups. It noted with great satisfaction and gratitude the directives and orientations of His Majesty concerning the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Image of Islam in the outside world as well as those of the Eminent Persons Group. In this regard, the Conference welcomed His Majesty's decision to have this Group continue its work so that it may complete the mission entrusted to it.

28. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Secretary General's report on cooperation between the OIC, the United Nations and other regional and international organizations. It welcomed such cooperation and expressed the hope that it will develop further.

Election of the Secretary General

29. The Conference unanimously elected H.E. Dr.Azeddine Laraki of the Kingdom of Morocco, as the Secretary General of the OIC. The term of the new Secretary General would commence from Ist January 1997.

Election of the Assistant Secretaries General

30. The Conference requested the Secretary General to continue his consultations concerning the designation of the new Assistant Secretaries General and mandated the Permanent Representatives of the Member States to the OIC to designate the Assistant Secretaries General before the expiration of the mandate of the incumbent Assistant Secretaries General at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat at Jeddah. The candidatures received on this subject are: the Republic of Guinea (H.E. Ambassador Naibika Diallo), the Republic of Yemen (H.E. Ambassador Abdul Ilah Mohammed Hajar), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Bin Mohamed Momina), the Arab Republic of Egypt (H.E. Ambassador Ibrahim Auf), the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (H.E. Ambassador Khaled Salim), the Islamic Republic of Iran (H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Ali Hedi), the Republic of Turkey (H.E. Ambassador Ayden Karahan), Burkina Faso (H.E. Minister Idrissa Zampalegre), the Republic of Indonesia (H.E. Ambassador Hadi A. Wayarabi Alhadar) and the Republic of Cameroun (H.E. Minister Mahamat Paba Sale).

31. It also requested the Secretary General to consider the proposal of the Republic of Kazakhstan concerning the creation of a new additional post of Assistant Secretary General from the Central Asia, Caucasus and Europe, in /...

consultation with the Permanent Representatives of Member States to the OIC and submit a report thereon, to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

32. The Conference welcomed the generous offer made by the State of Qatar to host the Twenty-fifth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in March 1998 and expressed its deep gratitude to the Government of the State of Qatar for this offer.

POLITICAL AFFAIRS:

Question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif

33. The Conference reaffirmed that the Palestine cause is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expressed its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organization in its just struggle for removing the effects of Israeli occupation and building the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine, with a view to realizing the imprescriptible and inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

34. The Conference called on Member States to further strengthen their solidarity with the Palestinian people, and to continue supporting the PLO, and its National Authority, positions in its negotiations for the full withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to consolidate its national authority in all the Palestinian territories.

35. The Conference reaffirmed its support for the Middle East peace process and the implementation of all the agreements signed in this context among the parties concerned and the commitments made in accordance with the underpinnings of the process launched in Madrid, in accordance with the UN resolutions, in particular Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425 and the land-for-peace formula which demand Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the occupied Syrian Golan, the occupied Lebanese territory, and the realization of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

36. The Conference further reaffirmed that Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms an integral part of the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967 and whatever is applicable to other occupied territories also applied to it. It urged action to halt all measures, practices and decisions adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, aimed at altering the city's geographic and demographic set-up and violating Islamic and Christian Holy

Places therein with a view to Judaizing the Holy City; and called for combining efforts to restore Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the State of Palestine, so as to ensure peace and security in the region.

37. The Conference invited all States of the world to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might in any way be interpreted by those authorities, as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" they have imposed by the declaration of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel and affirmed that all the legislative, administrative and settlement measures aiming at changing the legal status of the Holy City are null and void, have no legal effects whatsoever and are a violation of international agreements, conventions and norms.

38. The Conference also strongly condemned Israel's persistence in the excavation works around Al-Haram Al-Quds Al-Sharif especially the opening of a tunnel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It appealed to the international community and especially the Security Council Member States and the two cosponsors of the Peace Conference to take the necessary and immediate measures to compel Israel to close down this tunnel and to stop such aggressive practices, underlining the need to preserve the Arab and Islamic Character of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the status quo of the city pursuant the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties.

39. The Conference further invited the international community, and in particular the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference, to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographical alteration in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif during the transitional period and to refrain from any action or measure which might affect the outcome of the negotiations cn the final status of the City, adhere to the relevant international resolutions, lift the siege imposed on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, ensure the freedom of worship therein, and refrain from destroying houses, withdrawing identity cards of Palestinian citizens and emptying Al-Quds Al-Sharif of its Arab citizens. It strongly condemned Israel for the orders it has issued for closing the Palestinian institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and preventing them from operating freely.

40. The Conference invited the international community, in particular the two Sponsors of the Peace Conference and the States of the European Union to compel Israel to cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Syrian Golan. It requested the Security Council to set up an International Monitoring Committee to prevent the establishment of settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

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41. The Conference invited the international community, especially the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference and the States of the European Union to compel Israel to implement the agreements on the withdrawal of its troops from Al Khalil city and the other occupied Palestinian territories, close down the tunnel it had opened in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, enter in serious negotiations on the final status of the Palestinian territories provided for in the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties, resume negotiations on the Lebanese and Syrian tracks on the bases of the reference agreed upon at the Madrid Conference and from the point at which these negotiations stopped, and to endeavour to achieve just and comprehensive peace which would restore rights to whom they belong and which would ensure security, stability and prosperity for all peoples of the region.

42. The Conference asserted that Israel's failure to honour the principles and basis of the peace process, its going back on the commitments, undertakings or agreements reached within the framework of this process or its procrastination in their implementation or repudiating them would lead to the relapse of the peace process, and holds the Israeli government responsible for that. It recommended that, in the event of a breakdown of the peace process, normalization of relations with Israel should be reconsidered and that consultations should be held on this question at the appropriate time in order to adopt the necessary measures.

43. The Conference called on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487(1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

44. The Conference called upon Member States to honour their commitment to cover the approved budgets for Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf and urged Member States to take steps towards paying their contributions and appealed to those which have not pledged donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to do so.

45. The Conference lauded the steadfastness of the Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against the Israeli occupation and strongly condemned Israel for /...

its non-compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) and reaffirmed that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan is illegal, null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever. It decided that the Knesset decision of 11 November 1981 sanctioning the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void, has no legal effect, and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981). It strongly condemned Israel for its persistence in changing the legal status and demographic composition of the Occupied Syrian Golan. The Conference reaffirmed that the continued occupation by Israel of the Syrian Golan constitute a constant threat to peace and security in the region. It demanded Israel to fully withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of the Fourth of June 1967.

46. The Conference strongly condemned Israel for its continued occupation of parts of Southern Lebanon and the Lebanese Western Bikaa, and demands the international community to endeavours to implement Security Council Resolution No. 425 (1978) which provides for Israel's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all the occupied Lebanese territories to the international boundaries. It demanded the international community to take all necessary measures with Israel so that the latter may immediately release all Lebanese prisoners and kidnapped individuals. The Conference condemned Israel for its continued aggression against Lebanese territories indicating its non-compliance with the letter and spirit of April understanding. It demanded to exert pressure on Israel to pay reparations to Lebanon for the damages resulting from its continued aggression against Lebanese territories and to endeavour to halt the arbitrary and inhuman Israeli practices against the defenseless populations in the occupied Lebanese territories. The Conference asserted its support and backing for the efforts exerted by the Lebanese government to impose its control and sovereignty over the totality of its territories including the parts occupied by Israel in Southern Lebanon and Western Bekaa.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

47. The Conference reaffirmed the commitment of the OIC Member States to the legal continuity, integrity and sovereignty of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and fully supported the establishment of a democratic, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural State of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It emphasized the importance of ensuring the full, effective, consistent and impartial implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement and urged the international community to support the peaceful and democratic reintegration of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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48. It expressed grave concern that the conditions stipulated under the Dayton Peace Agreement for the holding of free and fair elections were not fulfilled in the 14 September, 1996 elections, specifically in the Serb entity, and also expressed serious concern over the negative role of separatists during the elections and cautioned the international community of these threats posed to the democratic reunification of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

49. It stressed the vital importance of ensuring freedom of movement throughout the country and the return of refugees and displaced persons to their places of origin under safe and secure conditions thus promoting the process of reconciliation, democratization and reintegration in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It emphasized the need for vigorous action against separatists and calls on the international community to support the viability, effective and continuous functioning of the common institutions for the smooth reintegration of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

50. It urged the international community to take concrete measures for the arrest of all indicted war criminals notably Karadzic and Mladic, and calls on the UN Security Council to utilize the enforcement procedures under the UN Charter, including those envisaged under Chapter VII, to secure the delivery of these criminals by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Republic of Croatia.

51. It expressed full support for the legal action of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the International Court of Justice for genocide. It reaffirmed strong support for the Security Council resolution 777 (1992) and General Assembly resolution 47/1 (1992) which decided that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should apply as new member of the United Nations and should not inherit the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which has ceased to exist. It reiterated the support of the OIC countries to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina relating to the question of succession of States, particularly the freezing of the assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

52. It urged all countries and multilateral institutions that have pledged resources for the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina to immediately disburse the funds in order to ensure timely completion of priority projects and reiterates the readiness of the OIC Member States and OIC institutions in providing resources for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina by promoting bilateral programmes of assistance and cooperation as well as through the OIC Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia

and Herzegovina, the coordination of institutions of the OIC and NGOs.

53. It reaffirmed support for the equipping and training of the Federation Armed Forces which will foster long term regional stability by creating a credible self-defense capability for the Federation. It expressed concern that the Serb entity and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) have not cooperated in good faith with the regional stabilization and arms limitation agreements envisaged by the Dayton Peace Agreement and completed in Vienna and Florence and called upon the international community to ensure full compliance.

54. It expressed the hope that the impediments to the full establishment and functioning of the Federation authorities, such as self styled Herceg Bosna, will be eliminated in accordance with the relevant Agreements reached. It welcomed the steps taken on mutual recognition of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other states deriving from Former Yugoslavia and expressed readiness to cooperate with all of them subject to their full and effective recognition and respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

55. It stressed the need for resolving the problem of Briko through speeding up the arbitration procedure. It supported the holding of free, fair and democratic municipal elections for the establishment of local democratic institutions.

56. It underlined the need for strong political support of the international community to the effective and consistent implementation of the action programme of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) adopted at the London Conference on 4-5 December, 1996 to stabilize peace and speed up the process of peaceful and democratic reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

57. It invited the international community and the OIC Member States to support the legitimate struggle of the Bosnian Muslim people of Sandjak for their equal national and civil rights.

58. It adopted an Action Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Action Programme calls for providing assistance and cooperation by Member States to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the following fields: humanitarian assistance, reconstruction of infrastructure and production capacity, rehabilitation of cultural heritage, legal support and assistance for self-defence.

Jammu and Kashmir

59. The Conference called for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant /...

UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement. It condemned the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and called for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination. It also called upon Member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. It further called upon India to allow international human rights groups and humanitarian organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

60. It affirmed that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by people of Kashmir as is provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.

61. It supported the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and calls upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts. It affirmed that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

62. It requested the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences. It also requested the Secretary General to establish contact with the governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

63. It appreciated the efforts made by the Secretary General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requests him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.

64. It appealed to the Member States, OIC and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

65. It recommended that Member States continue to coordinate their positions and to take action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

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66. It commended the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. It requested the Contact Group to continue its efforts for promoting the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

Afghanistan

67. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan and called upon Afghan parties for an immediate and unconditional cease-fire and support for all the efforts being made in this regard.

68. It emphasized the need for promoting national reconciliation and rapprochement as well as for the establishment of a broad-based government, demobilization of armed groups and formation of national army and police force.

69. It expressed its appreciation and support for the initiatives taken by the Secretary General to promote a credible intra-Afghan peace process. It called upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative for promoting peace in Afghanistan.

70. It called upon all States to end immediately the supply of arms and ammunition to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan. It also called for respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and Islamic character of Afghanistan and non-interference in its internal affairs.

71. It reaffirmed the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences that the OIC should have an active role in the solution of the Afghanistan problem. It emphasized the need for continued close coordination of efforts between OIC and UN for promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan by setting a credible intra-Afghan mechanism. It further expressed its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute political and economic problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and in this regard, encourages the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the UN Special Mission.

Somalia

72. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia. It noted with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote /...

peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the sufferings of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and calls for continuation of such efforts and requests the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

73. It called for the convening of an international conference on peace and national reconciliation in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of all the Somali parties and all the concerned international and regional organizations.

74. It expressed its appreciation for the initiative of H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Republic of Yemen by calling for the holding of a Somali National Reconciliation Conference in Sanaa and welcomed the acceptance of the principal Somali factions of this invitation. It called on all Somali factions to positively respond to the invitation extended by the Republic of Yemen and affirmed the necessity for their effective participation in the national reconciliation conference in Sanaa in the spirit of Islamic brotherhood so as to achieve peace and preserve the unity, territorial integrity and independence of Somalia. It urged all Member States to extend financial and material assistance to Yemen so as to enable it to overcome the problem of the refugees and to provide them with the means that would ensure their safe return to their countries.

75. It called upon all states, in particular the neighbouring states, to cooperate in the implementation of the arms embargo established by Security Council Resolution 733 (1992) and also called upon all Somali factions to enter into negotiations for a constructive dialogue for a peaceful settlement of the problem.

Iraqi aggression against Kuwait

76. The Conference called upon Iraq to pursue efforts towards the fulfillment of its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, for the establishment of security, peace and stability in the region.

77. It called on Iraq to cooperate fully and seriously with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Committee in Geneva which was established under its sponsorship and supervision, with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para 2C and Para 3C of resolution No. 686 (1991) and Para (30) of resolution No. 687 (1991) pertaining to the urgent release of

prisoners and detainees from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any other nationals so as to put a quick end to this issue as well as implementing Para 15 (d) pertaining to the return of Kuwaiti possessions.

78. It affirmed that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed bound to implement Para 2-B of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which relate to the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss or damage, including any attendant environmental damages, depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.

79. It endorsed once again Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq. It reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq and welcomed, in this respect, the agreement reached by the Secretary General of the UN with Iraq in implementing Security Council Resolution No. 986 (1995) and considered it a step for alleviating the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan

80. The Conference strongly condemned the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan. It considered the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri population in occupied Azeri territory as crimes against humanity. It strongly demanded the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, calling for the immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories, inter alia, Lachin and Shusha regions and strongly urges Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

81. It called on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan; take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and decided to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

82. It called on all States to refrain from providing any supplies of military arms and equipment to Armenia, which can encourage the aggressor to escalate the conflict and to continue the occupation of the Azerbaijani territories. The territory of the OIC Member States should not be used for transit of such supplies. It also called

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upon the OIC Member States, as well as other members of the international community, to use such effective political and economic measures as required in order to put an end to Armenian aggression and to occupation of the Azerbaijani territories.

83. It called for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers. It urged both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states members of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing OSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

84. It affirmed its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country. It called for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity. It expressed its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan and requested the OIC Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

85. The Conference expressed its support for the statement of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of 3 December 1996 which was annexed to the Declaration of the OSCE Summit held in Lisbon on 2-3 December 1996 relating to the three principles which should form part of the settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, namely the territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia and Republic of Azerbaijan, legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh defined in an agreement based on self-determination which confers on Nagorno-Karabakh the highest degree of self-rule within Azerbaijan and guaranteed security for Nagorno-Karabakh and its whole population, including mutual obligations to ensure compliance by all the Parties with the provisions of the settlement.

US Aggression against Libya

86. The Conference condemned once again the continuing United States aggression, threats and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It supported the right of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the material and human losses sustained as a result of aggression as well as the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.

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87. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the economic boycott measures which are liable to undermine its development plans.

88. It condemned the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and called for their abolition forthwith as they violate international law and conventions. It called upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Crisis between Libya, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of France.

89. The Conference expressed appreciation for the readiness of the Libyan Jamahiriya to peacefully settle the dispute between Libya and the United States, the United Kingdom and France and to cooperate in order to establish a fruitful dialogue among all parties concerned.

90. It expressed concern over the escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose further sanctions or the use of force as a way of conduct among states, including violation of the UN Charter, and international laws and standards. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the Great Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and recommended to all parties concerned to avoid all procedures that may lead to the escalation of tension which is detrimental to the Libyan people and neighbouring States.

91. It called upon the three Western States to respond positively to the requests, and proposals made by regional organizations and the flexibility displayed by the Great Jamahiriya to settle the crisis peacefully, and considers that failure to respond positively to these endeavours delayed considerably the realization of a solution to the crisis and redoubled the hardships experienced by the Libyan people. And that the continuation of these sanctions would prompt Islamic States to consider possible means to avert inflicting further damages on the Libyan people and to alleviate their suffering.

92. It reiterated its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States (Doc. 5373-D/A, (101)-G 3) on 27 March, 1994 calling for the holding of a just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and urged the Security Council to take into consideration this constructive proposal in order to seek a peaceful solution to avoid any escalation of the crisis, which would exacerbate tension in the region.

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93. The Conference condemned the continuation of sanctions against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and renewed its call on the Security Council to review its resolutions 731/92, 748/92 and 883/93 so as to lift the sanctions imposed on the Great Jamahiriya.

Cyprus

94. The Conference reaffirmed the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus which constitute an integral part of the Islamic world. It reiterated its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides. It welcomed in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues. It considered that the rearmament of the Greek Cypriot side deepened further the existing mistrust between the two sides and constituted a threat to peace and stability in the island.

95. It also expressed its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement.

96. It reaffirmed the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other. It urged the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports.

97. It decided to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus. It considered that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question. It called on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement for implementing the confidence building measures and to resume direct talks without any preconditions. It also decided to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

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The Comorian Island of Mayotte

98. The Conference reaffirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte. It expressed its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supported the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity. It rejected any idea of dividing the Comorian Island of Mayotte into departments, as this would be contrary to all relevant international resolutions and to solving the issue through negotiations in accordance with the willingness of the French and Comorian Presidents.

99. It urged anew the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros. It called upon the member states to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

Eastern and Central Europe

100. The Conference reaffirmed the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interest and expressed the hope that strengthening of economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third World countries.

101. It also expressed the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language, religion and culture.

102. It called on the Secretary General to visit the region from time to time to contact the Governments and members of the Muslim communities to ascertain their conditions and enlighten them about the OIC. It also requested that the IDB may in association with international/regional financial institutions draw up a study of the economic circumstances of the region, Western concerns and interests, and the implications for the Muslim countries.

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Security and Solidarity

103. The Conference reiterated that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries. It expressed firm resolve to strengthen the security of Member States, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration. It reaffirmed the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples over their natural resources and economic activities. It expressed the determination of the Member States to preserve and promote Islamic values in all spheres of life especially those of solidarity and mutual respect.

104. It reaffirmed further the determination of Member States to encourage the initiatives aimed at building confidence and security at the appropriate time at the bilateral or sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration. It reaffirmed the need for respect of the principles of international law concerning the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States as essential prerequisites for the security of Islamic States.

105. It recognized that small states are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs.

106. It approved the report of the Second Inter-governmental Expert Group Meeting entrusted to reflect on the security and solidarity of Member States as well as the proposals and recommendations contained therein. It recommends to Member States to implement them.

Disarmament

107. The Conference called for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons. It emphasized the need to conduct negotiations as early as possible within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session on the full range of disarmament issues. It reaffirmed that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

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108. It called upon all States, particularly the States of the regions concerned, which have not yet done, to positively respond to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in the Middle East and South Asia. It requested all Member States to keep up and further coordinate their cooperation at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in the Middle East and South Asia. It reaffirmed the determination of Member States to take measures to prevent nuclear poliferation on a non-discriminatory and universal basis.

109. It welcomed the signing of a convention in Bangkok in December 1995 by the Heads of State and Government of the ten South East Asian countries for the establishment of a South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.

110. It urged all States especially nuclear weapon States to exert pressure on Israel to become party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and called on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

111. It called upon all States, including those Members of the Conference on Disarmament, particularly the nuclear weapon States, to work urgently towards a binding agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances of Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context. It urged the Conference on Disarmament for the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory and universally applicable convertion banning the production and stockpiling of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosives.

112. It recognized the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels. It call upon the international community and states concerned to /...

adopt measures which would ease global and regional tensions and result in a just and lasting resolution of outstanding conflicts and disputes thus facilitating meaningful disarmament and arms control measures.

Elimination of anti-personnel mines

113. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian population and their economic development. It urged strongly Member States to intensify and pursue their support for mine clearing operations and to strengthen international cooperation in this field. It requested Member States to take part in the efforts aimed at adopting effective measures to put an end to the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines for their complete elimination.

114. It urged the international community, particularly the developed countries to provide substantial assistance for the removal of anti-personnel mines and to ensure access by all States to advance material, equipment and technology.

Islamic Solidarity with the people of Sahel

115. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the elaboration and finalization of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel. It reaffirmed the necessity to devote greater attention to the speedy implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations. The Conference was informed by the representative of the State of Kuwait that the meeting of the Expert Group on the Programme will be held in Kuwait after Ramadan.

Critical Economic Situation in Africa.

116. The Conference welcomed the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Treaty of Abuja concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa. It stressed the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and calls upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

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Consultation and Coordination among Member States

117. The Conference called upon member states to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other member states. It decided that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State.

118. It emphasized the necessity of strengthening coordination among the member states to control all images and forms of the phenomenon of terrorism, including intellectual terrorism and extremism. It stressed the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among member states at all levels, and to deepen their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

Reparations of damages due to colonialism.

119. The Conference reaffirmed its condemnation of colonialism, in all its forms, as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law. It recognized that the effects of colonialism have impeded economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries and continue to impeded their development and progress. It also reaffirmed the right of all the member states, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to take all necessary measures to obtain fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism or external invasion. It affirmed the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion, colonization and settlement on Libayan territories. It called on the countries responsible for these hazards; to take practical measures in response to the Great Jamahirya's requests.

120. It also reaffirmed the right of all member states, without exception which suffered under colonialism, to recover the cultural property lotted from it during the colonial period, including antiquities, works of art, manuscripts, and historical documents. it called on member states to coordinate among themselves to achieve this end in coordination with ISESCO. It also appealed to the international community to take the necessary measures so that the phenomenon of colonialism may not be repeated and that whatever is left of it is eradicated.

Niger

121. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of the Peace Agreement between the Government of /...

the Republic of Niger and the Organization of Armed Resistance. It commended the efforts exerted by mediating countries for their important contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement. It requested member states, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its regional developmental objectives within the framework of the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement.

Mali

122. The Conference requested member states and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency programmes and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali and recommended that the Organization and its financial institutions actively support the implementation of the medium and long term development strategy and of the emergency programme in the regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctu.

Sudan:

123. The Conference reaffirmed its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability. It commended Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem in Southern Sudan through consultation and dialogue between the various Sudanese parties in view of achieving its stability and intenrational development. It also expressed its profound appreciation of the Member States which support Sudan's efforts aiming at safeguarding its unity, national security and cultural heritage.

Right to use of science and technology for development

124. The Conference affirmed the inalienable right of the Islamic Ummah to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields. It rejected policies and measures aimed at obstructing the achievement of technological progress for peaceful purposes in Member States.

125. It called upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering this process. It called upon member states to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH).

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Refugees

126. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation to countries hosting refugees for their generous assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as presence of large number of displaced persons. It reaffirmed its concern for the security, stability and infrastructure of those Islamic countries whose economic and social development is seriously affected by the presence of millions of refugees.

127. It called on member states, to coordinate their action at the international level with a view to determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other countries and strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their homes whenever circumstances permit. It requested the General Secretariat to prepare a survey regarding the number and the situation of the refugees in the Islamic World in coordination with the UNHCR and submit it to the first meeting of the Group of Experts to be held in 1997.

128. It urged member states and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Islamic countries hosting refugees given the economic and social difficulties caused by the presence of such refugees. It called on member states to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the suffering of those refugees in Islamic countries.

129. It urged non-Member States to create better conditions for the Muslim communities so that they are not forced to escape or are driven out as refugees because of religious, ethnic or racial reasons. It condemned all acts of repression against the refugees, including armed attacks on their camps and pressures on the countries sheltering them.

Dumping of Toxic Wastes

130. The Conference affirmed that the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes in member countries is a crime against the whole of humanity. It called upon all countries producing toxic and dangerous wastes to take steps to ensure that wastes are recycled and made use of in their own territories. It urged all member states to ban any unlawful shipment of toxic and dangerous wastes across their borders without the existence of the requisite safeguards and the prior approval of the importing state. It called on all States to abide by the maritime agreements prohibiting the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes in the territorial waters of the littoral Member States.

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Assistance to the Republic of Sudan to shelter refugees and displaced persons.

131. The Conference urged international donors to extend assistance commensurate with the number of the refugees in the Sudan, and also to help in their voluntary repatriation. It exhorted all member states to extend assistance to the Sudanese Government to help it overcome the problem of refugees and displaced persons. It invited the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance so as to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan aimed at resettling returning Sudanese refugees in the areas liberated from the hold of the rebellious movement as well as to provide shelter to the displaced persons who migrated to the North due to the military operations conducted by the rebellious movement.

Solidarity with Iran and Libya with regard to the Damato Law.

132. The Conference emphasized the principles of the OIC and the UN Charter which require states not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states and to settle their disputes through peaceful means. It strongly opposed any arbitrary, extra-territorial and unilateral measure, be it political or legal, by one country against another country. It urged all States to consider the so-called D'Amato law which is against international law and norms as null and void. It also affirmed its soldiarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya with their positions against such acts.

Kosovo

133. The Conference strongly condemned the large-scale repression, discrimination and violation of human rights against the defenseless Albanian population committed by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). It called on the international community to take all necessary measures to immediately end all human rights violations against Albanians in Kosovo and revoke all discriminatory legislation entered into force since 1989. It further called for the establishment of democratic institutions in Kosovo, release of all political prisoners, protection of the human, political and national rights of the Albanian population and commencement of internationally brokered dialogue with the representatives of Albanians in Kosovo.

East Timor

134. The Conference was briefed by Indonesia on the question of East Timor and the efforts to find a solution to the question. In this regard the Conference expressed its full support for Indonesia in the efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive and internationally acceptable solution.

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MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES:

135. The Conference confirmed that preservation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States is, essentially, the responsibility of the governments of these states, on the basis of abidance by the principles of International Law and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Conference called upon Member States and the OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO) as well as non-governmental Islamic organisations, bodies and institutions, to provide the OIC General Secretariat, as early as possible, with available information, studies and statistics on the situation of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States so as to establish an advanced data-base which enables the General Secretariat to perform the tasks entrusted to it concerning these Muslim communities and minorities in a manner that satisfies the aims and objectives of the OIC.

136. The Conference urged Member States to pay special attention to those Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States who are exposed to persecution or oppression because of their religious beliefs and to know their needs which are to be communicated to the Member States so as to provide the necessary capabilities - material, human and in kind. Also to intensify the cultural and educational Islamic activities as well as various human assistance so as to accord more attention to improving the general situation of the Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States in general. It invited Member States to exert further efforts in order to provide information, within the OIC Member States, about the reality of the problems of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States.

137. It requested the OIC General Secretariat and the Islamic organisations and bodies that are members of the OIC Committee for the Coordination of Islamic Action, to hold an early meeting to consider drawing up an action plan on preserving the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, while giving special priority to the activities of societies that aim at Christianizing Muslim communities and minorities in the different parts of the world. It invited the OIC General Secretariat to make contacts with the governments of the states that have Muslim communities and minorities in order to be familiar with their problems and needs as well as the conception of these States concerning a cooperation formula with the OIC aimed at making the required contributions for improving the conditions of these Muslim communities and minorities and preserving their religions and cultural identity.

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138. The Conference decided to establish a contact group from among the permanent delegations of the Member States at the UN in New York and Geneva so as to deal with cases of violation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States as well as attempts to obliterate the identity of these communities and minorities. It may also be possible to hold, when necessary, a meeting of the group at Ministerial level.

139. The Conference invited the OIC General Secretariat to follow up the UN activities relevant to the minority issue so as to be informed about developments on the situation of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Group of Experts. It welcomed the recommendation contained in the report of the Third Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group of Experts Entrusted with the following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, on the need to coordinate with this Group aimed at carrying out a comprehensive survey of the conditions of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and at a later stage to make the necessary arrangements at the well known international fora for preserving the rights of Muslim communities and minorities and requested the Group of Experts on Muslim Communities and Minorities in non OIC-Member States to continue its work through 1997.

Muslims in Southern Philippines

140. The Conference welcomed the Final Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front initialed on 30 August 1996 in Jakarta and officially signed on 2 September 1996 in Manila. It appreciated the important steps already taken to fully implement the Agreement and calls on both the GRP and the MNLF to preserve the gains achieved as a result of the signing of the Peace Agreement. It paid tribute to the leadership of the Moro National Liberation Front under the Chairmanship of Professor Nur Misuari, as the sole legitimate representative of Muslims in Southern Philippines ("Bangsamoro people"), for their courage, political vision and wisdom which paved the way for the ultimate achievement of a political, just, comprehensive, and final solution to the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines. It paid tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines under the wise leadership of President Fidel Ramos and its creative ideas which led to the establishment of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development and, consequently, to the achievement of the peaceful, durable, comprehensive and just settlement of the problem of Southern Philippines.

141. The Conference paid tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, under the sagacious leadership of His Excellency President Soeharto, in facilitating the peace process culminating in the /...

signing of the Final Peace Agreement on 2 September 1996. It also paid tribute to the role of the Government of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the wise leadership of His Excellency Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, in achieving the Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and in hosting the first exploratory talks in Tripoli from 3 to 4 October, 1992.

142. The Conference urged the Member States, the OIC subsidiary organs, specialised and affiliated institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank, to extend economic, financial, technical and material assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Southern Philippines through the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and/or the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD) under the leadership of the MNLF.

143. The Conference decided to maintain the status and enhance the participation of the MNLF in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Bangsamoro people in Southern Philippines aimed at improving their conditions in accordance with the Peace Agreement. It requested the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General to continue extending assistance as appropriate for the full implementation of the Peace Agreement during the transitional period pending the establishment of the regular autonomous regions in Southern Philippines. It urged the Member States to help in mobilizing a broad international support to both parties of the Peace Agreement in achieving peace, development and prosperity in the Southern Philippines.

Western Thrace

144. The Conference noted with deep concern that human rights including the freedoms of worship and education of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, guaranteed under international treaties, continue to be denied and violated and urged that all their rights and freedoms, individual and collective, be fully respected.

LEGAL AFFAIRS:

145. The Conference urged the Member States to expeditiously finalize the ratification procedures of agreements concluded under the auspices of the OIC aimed at expanding cooperation among Member States with regard to the peaceful settlement of conflicts among Member States. It also urged Member States to expedite the ratification of the Statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice so as to acquire the quorum needed for the Court to start its proceedings. With respect to human rights, it decided that the Committee of Experts pursue its follow up meetings on the Cairo Declaration of human rights in Islam which /...

emphasises the need and importance of coordination and cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights. As regards combating international terrorism, it reaffirmed the commitment of the Member States to the provisions of the Code of Conduct for Combating International Terrorism and called upon Member States of the Organization to follow-up, coordinate their stands and achieve cooperation in the light of the principles and provisions stipulated in the Code at all international conferences and fora concerned with the international terrorism, and to cooperate with the General Secretariat for the facilitation and achievement of this coordination and cooperation. It urged Member States to support the holding of an international Conference within the framework of the United Nations in a bid to define terrorism and distinguish it from people's liberation struggle.

INFORMATION AFFAIRS:

146. The Conference took note of the resolutions of the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers and the desicions of the COMIAC and expressed thanks to the government of the Republic of Senegal for having offered to host the Fourth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

147. The Conference approved the 1996-97 Action Programme submitted by the General Secretariat and drawn from the Information Plan, this programme having to be implemented in accordance with the recommendations of the Fourth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs.

148. The Conference urged member states to extend necessary support to the International Islamic News Agency and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization so that they may achieve their objectives in the service of Islamic information.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

149. The Conference urged member states to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

150. The Conference reiterated the need to take serious steps to ensure economic integration among OIC member states with the ultimate objectives of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step by step and regional basis, among OIC Member Countries in order to help overcome difficulties arising from the formation of global economic groupings.

151. The Conference expressed deep concern at the tendencies among some developed countries to link labour /...

and environment related issues with trade deals and emphasized that such trends are detrimental to the evalution of a just, free and fair trading environment.

152. The Conference noted with concern the extra-territorial application of domestic laws which adversely affect the foreign investments in other countries, including Islamic countries and rejected all coercive measures which may target Member States including those intending to expand further the area of cooperation in economic and commercial field.

153. The Conference emphasized the importance of ensuring universality of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and stressed the need for the expeditious processing of the membership application of intending States.

154. The Conference congratulated the FAO for successfully convening the World Food Summit in Rome from 13-17 November 1996. It called upon the Member States of the OIC to implement the committments made at the Summit on an urgent basis.

155. The Conference recognized the necessity of responding to the need of land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructures.

156. The Conference appealed to the international community and particularly to the developed countries to fully and efficiently implement the 1990 Plan of Action regarding least developed and land-locked countries and the provisions of other UN resolutions, in particular those contained in UNCTAD VIII and recommendations contained in the report of the High Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term global Review of the Implimentation Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1997.

157. The Conference appealed to developed countries to increase their aid programme in order to attain 0.7% of the GDP in official aid development, as fixed by the UN and urged the least developed countries and low-income countries to play in a more coordinative manner, a more active role in the international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

158. The Conference appealed to international creditors to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of member states and expressed its gratitude to member states which have already responded formally in this regard and appeals to member states to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to member states, especially to the least developed, land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.

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159. The Conference urged all member states and those institutions concerned to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people establish their national economy and consolidate their national institutions inorder to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its Capital.

160. The Conference urged the international community to extend assistance to member states struck by drought and natural disasters.

161. The Conference appealed to member states and OIC institutions to extend assistance to OIC countries of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development and Drought Control (IGADD) and the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which is threatening them.

162. The Conference emphasized the need to urgently implement the new Plan of Action to strengthen economic and commercial cooperation and the auspicious of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on follow-up and implementation.

163. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation for the devotion and efficiency with which the IDB is carrying out its responsibilities and for the invaluable contribution it is making towards the development and progress of the Muslim populations.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

164. The Conference affirmed the inalienable right of the Islamic Ummah to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in the enconomic, social and cultural fields and called upon industralized states to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering this process. It called upon member states to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and techynology for peaceful purposes, especially within the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH).

165. The Conference expressed grave concern over the manufacture and illegal trafficking as well as the widespread abuse of drugs which endanger the health of millions of people especially young people and calls for greater cooperation in combatting drug abuse and psychotropic substances and their illegal production, processing and trafficking.

166. The Confernce called for cooperation to combat epidemic diseases which affect human, animal and natural /...

life and invites OIC Member States to collectively organize a campaign against the expansion of the AIDS pandemic and to seriously uphold medical research efforts in this field at the national, regional and international levels.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS:

167. The Conference took note with appreciation of the reports submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic universities, institutions and cultural centres. It approved the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs. It expressed its deep concern vis-a-vis the problems faced by these institutions in views of the decrease in financial and material assistance extended by Member States. It urged the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic institutions to extend further financial and material support to these universities, institutions and centres especially that they contribute to the development of human resources which are indispensible in any development activities for the Islamic Ummah.

168. The Conference also took note with appreciation of the decision of the OIC Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs underlining the need to expedite convening a Conference of Ministers of Culture to implement the Cultural Strategy in coordination and collaboration between the OIC General Secretariat and the ISESCO. The Conferenc appealed to Member States to incorporate the Cultural Strategy in their cultural, educational and pedagogic projects.

169. The Conference took note with appreciation of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat on the elaboration of a legal instrument to ensure respect for Islamic values and holy shrines.

170. The Conference expressed deep concern over the acts of the killings committed against Muslims in Palestine, India, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the world, and the aggression perpetrated against their holy shrines. It also strongly condemned the repeated acts of aggression committed by zionists aggression against the Ibrahimi Mosque and other holy shrines in Palestine. The Conference renewed its invitation to the Indian Government to rebuild the Babri Mosque on its original site.

171. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation for the work achieved by the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and highly commended the fruitful and exemplary cooperation relations which now link ISESCO to the major international, Islamic and regional organizations concerned with the same field. It also expressed its deep appreciation of the /...

activities of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent.

172. The Conference also expressed its thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, General President of the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity for taking the initiative to offer to host the meeting of the Inter-governmental Experts Committee entrusted with the preparation for the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports.

173. The Conference also expressed its deep appreciation for the achievements realized by the Centre of Research in Islamic History, Arts and Culture, the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage and the Islamic Fiqh Academy.

174. The Conferece took note of the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the activities of the Fund and its Waqf. It expressed appreciation for those Member States which extended generous donations to the ISF and its Waqf. It also requested all Member States to take interest in extending annual donations to the Fund's budget, each according to its means, in order to enable it to overcome the defecit in its annual budget. The Conference also called upon Member States to contribute to the capital of the ISF Waqf.

175. The Conference took note of the decision of H.E. Omar Bongo, President of the Republic of Gabon, to set up a Department of Islamic Languages and Culture at Omar Bongo University in Libreville. It expressed its thanks to the Gabonese President for this initiative which, togehter with the setting up of the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs in Gabon, constitute a major contribution to the dessimination of Islam in this part of the world. It congratulated CICIBA (International Centre for Bantou Civilization) for having organized a seminar on human rights in Islam based on the Cairo Declaration.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS:

176. The Conference adopted the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the year 1996-97 and urged member states to pay their contributions to these budgets. It expressed its deep concern over the critical financial situation of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs resulting from the accumulation of arrears of contributions to these budgets. It called upon member states to settle their arrears in order to enable these institutions to fulfill their tasks.

Closing Session

177. His Excellency Ali Alatas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Chairman of the /...

Twenty-Fourth Session of the ICFM, thanked the participating delegations for the spirit of constructive cooperation and for their precious contribution towards the success of the Conference.

Vote of Thanks

178. At the end of the deliberations, His Excellency Mr. Hamadou Moustapha, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Cameroun expressed, on behalf of the participating delegations profound thanks and gratitude to His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government and people of Indonesia for the generous hospitality extended to the delegations and for the excellent arrangements which greatly contributed to the success of the Conference. He also expressed his appreciation to the Chairman of the Conference for his farsightedness and competence in conducting the deliberations of the Conference.

179. The Conference decided to address a Special Motion of Thanks to His Excellency President M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, for the solicitude he has shown to the participants and for his effective presence at the opening session of the Conference. (Text of the Motion of Thanks is annexed).

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Annex 1

DECLARATION
ON BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, meeting in Jakarta, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996) within the framework of the Twenty-fourth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Having received an alarming message from the highest authorities of the Bosnian people that the spirit and the letter of the Dayton Peace Agreement have been put in jeopardy;

1. Decided to launch an appeal to the international community, particularly to the Five Nation Contact Group, to:

(a) Defend the universal principles embodied in the Dayton Peace Agreement;

(b) Reject equating aggressors and victims of aggression.

(c) Arrest immediately all indicted war criminals and bring them to the International War Crimes Tribunal;

(d) Put an end to the manipulation of the destiny of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. We reiterate our position that in Bosnia and Herzegovina there can be no peace and reconciliation without justice, no stability without democracy and no prosperity without peace.

3. We urge the international community, for the sake of humanity, justice, and democracy to ensure the complete and faithful implementation of the provisions of the Dayton Peace Agreement.

4. We reiterate that the international community must never forget the massacre in Srebrenica, the strangulation of Sarajevo, the killing of two hundred thousand Bosnians, the brutal aggression and genocid against the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Annex 2

DECLARATION ON THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Islamic States meeting in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia in the framework of the 24th ICFM from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban 1417H (9-13 December 1996), examined the policies of the Israeli government which are hostile to peace and strongly condemned these policies which are aimed at undermining the peace process, eliminating its very principles and terms of reference and reneging the commitments, agreements and obligations concluded during the past five years of peace negotiations.

The Ministers also expressed their strong denunciation and anger at the threats made by the Israeli officials and which are aimed at taking the region back to a state of war and imposing a "fait accompli" on the Arabs and the Muslims. They drew the attention of the co-sponsors of the peace process and that of the international community to the great dangers involved should the Israeli government continue to take positions and adopt policies which are hostile to peace.

The Ministers commended the strategic option of peace which was asserted by the Arab leaders in the Summit meeting held in Cairo in June 1996, and affirmed their countries' adherence to the principles and terms of reference of the peace process. They also called upon Israel to honour its obligations and commitments under this process and to resume the negotiations at the point where those negotiations had stopped. They asserted their firm support to the just Arab positions and demands calling for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab and Palestinian lands, including Al-Quds, the Golan, Southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including the right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent State on their homeland.

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Annex 3

MOTION OF THANKS ADDRESSED TO HIS EXCELLENCY MR. SOEHARTO PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban 1417 H (9-13 December 1996),

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Having followed with great interest the inaugural speech of His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, who kindly accepted to grace this Conference, with his High Patronage:

1. Pays a warm tribute to His Excellency M. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia for the support he extends to the activities of the OIC, for his excellent initiative in hosting this important Ministerial Conference and for his great role in the strengthening of the joint Islamic action, in enhancing the prestige of the Organization and consolidating its contribution to international peace and security.

2. Expresses its sincere thanks and profound gratitude to His Excellency President Soeharto, to the Government and people of Indonesia for their noble and sustained support to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and to its institutions. It commends the positive and effective role played by the Republic of Indonesia in promotion of dialogue and cooperation among nations, and congratulates H.E. President M. Soeharto, for the significant progress achieved in ensuring the prosperity of the people of Indonesia, under his high and enlightened guidance. The Conference hails the significant contribution of the Republic of Indonesia to the restoration of peace in the Southern Philippines.

Jakarta 3 Shaaban 1417H
13 December, 1996.

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Annex 4

MOTION OF THANKS ADDRESSED TO HIS EXCELLENCY MR. SOEHARTO PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

The Twenty-Third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban 1417 H (9-13 December 1996),

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Having followed with great interest the opening speech of His Excellency Mr. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia who kindly accepted to grace this Conference with his High Patronage:

1. Pays a warm tribute to His Excellency Mr. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia for the support he extends to the activities of the OIC, for his excellent initiative in hosting this important Ministerial Conference and for his great part in giving a sound basis to joint Islamic action, in enhancing the prestige of the Organization and consolidating its contribution to international peace and security.

2. Expresses its sincere thanks and profound gratitude to His Excellency President Soeharto, to the Government and people of Indonesia for their noble and sustained support to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and to its institutions. The Conference commends the positive and effective role played by the Republic of Indonesia in promotion of the dialogue and cooperation among nations. The Conference would particularly like to make special mention of President Soeharto's sponsorship of the efforts of Muslims in Southern Philippines to achieve peace and stability and congratulates H.E the President on the significant progress he has already achieved in ensuring the welfare and prosperity of the people of Indonesia under his enlightened guidance.

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Annex II

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES, LEGAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION QUESTIONS, TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB-3 SHA'ABAN 1417H
(9-13 DECEMBER 1996)

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REPORT
OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE
TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB - 3 SHABAN 1417H
(9-13 DECEMBER, 1996)

The Political Committee of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers met in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996).

2. The Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia to the Political Committee chaired the meeting.

3. The other members of the Bureau of the Political Affairs Committee were:

Vice-Chairmen: - Republic of Gabon
- Republic of Yemen
- State of Palestine

Rapporteur : - Republic of Guinea.

4. The General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Ambassador Ibrahim Bakr, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs.

5. The Committee reviewed the draft resolutions on political, Muslim communities and minorities, information and legal issues approved by the meeting of Senior Officials held in Jeddah from 26 to 29 October, 1996 assigned by the Plenary to the Political Affairs Committee. These include draft resolutions on agenda items from No. 11 to No.49.

6. After careful consideration, the Political Committee finalized the draft resolutions for consideration and adoption by the Plenary. Some delegations expressed reservations on some resolutions which were noted by the General Secretariat.

7. The Committee heard a statement by the representative of the Republic of Indonesia on East Timor. The Committee expressed its thanks for the briefing provided by him on the issue of East Timor and recommended that an appropriate paragraph be incorporated in the Final Communique of the Conference.

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8. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Chairman for the able manner in which he steered the meeting.

9. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of the Committee for their fruitful cooperation and successful deliberations characterized by the true spirit of Islam.

10. The Political Committee presents this report to the Plenary Session for consideration and appropriate decision.

Ambassador Izhar Ibrahim
Chairman of the
Political Affairs Committee

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A. Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict

RESOLUTION NO.1/24-P ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict contained in Document No. (ICFM/24-96/PAL/D.1);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Pursuant to the resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict;

Recalling the resolutions issued by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the other occupied Arab territories;

Reaffirming the UN Security Council Resolution No.1073 of 28 September, 1996 on the serious deterioration of the conditions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Palestinian territories;

Recalling resolutions 465, 476 and 478 of the Security Council on the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Islamic resolutions emphasizing that the Question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif constitutes the heart of the Palestine issue which is the prime cause of all Muslims and the core of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, and that a just and comprehensive peace will only be achieved with the return of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine;

Reaffirming the need for all States of the world, including their executive, legislative and other institutions, to abide by and respect the resolutions of the Security Council on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Reaffirming also that the Palestine Cause is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, its annexation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, its continued denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and its disrespect for the human rights

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of the Palestinians constitute a flagrant violation of the relevant resolutions of the international legitimacy and the principles of international law as well as the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights;

Proceeding from Islamic and international resolutions which reaffirm the legitimacy of the struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative, for the re-establishment of their sovereignty over their land, and the exercise of their inalienable national rights;

Expressing its strong condemnation of Israel's continuing repressive and terrorist measures and practices, its continued policy of colonization, expansion of existing settlements, confiscation of land and properties, deportation and mass reprisal against Palestinian and Arab citizens in all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, its siege of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the desecration of holy Shrines;

Condemning the continuous Israeli aggression against Lebanese territories and Lebanese citizens, emphasizing that the Israeli policies, practices and expansionist plots, do not only threaten the Arab states and the peace process but also threaten the Islamic States and endanger international peace and security;

Following with interest the continued peace efforts being exerted for the achievement of a just and comprehensive solution for the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions Nos. 242 and 338 and 425 and of the formula of "land for peace", and the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people;

Commending the efforts made by the Palestine Liberation Organisation throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, for the reconstruction of what had been destroyed by the Israeli occupation, as well as the efforts exerted by its National Authority for the rehabilitation of the Palestinian national economy and its consolidation, on the way to the establishment of the Palestinian State and the importance of supporting these efforts by all possible ways and means;

1. Reaffirms all the resolutions of the Islamic Conferences relating to the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif Cause and the Arab-Israeli Conflict.

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2. Reaffirms also that the Palestine cause is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expresses its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its just struggle for removing the effects of Israeli occupation and building the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine, with a view to realizing the imprescriptible and inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determaination and to the establishment of their independent State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

3. Calls on Member States to further strengthen their solidarity with the Palestinian people, and support their just and legitimate struggle for ending Israeli occupation and achieving all their goals of freedom and independence and to continue supporting the PLO, and its National Authority, positions in its negotiations for the full withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to consolidate its authorities in all the Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif as they all represent a single geographic unit, and for the guarantee of the transfer of all powers and responsibilities in the occupied Palestinian territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to the Palestinian National Authority.

4. Reaffirms its support for the Middle East Peace Process and the implementation of all the agreements signed in this context among the parties concerned and the commitments made in accordance with the underpinnings of the process launched in Madrid, in accordance with the UN resolutions, in particular Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425 and the land-for-peace formula which demand Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the occupied Syrian Golan, the occupied Lebanese territory, and the realization of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

5. Reaffirms that Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms an integral part of the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967 and whatever is applicable to other occupied Palestinian territories also applied to it, in implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council and the UN General Assembly; it urged action to halt all measures, practices and decisions adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, aimed at altering the city's geographic and demographic set-up and violating Islamic and Christian Holy Places therein with a view to Judaizing the Holy City; and calls for combining efforts to restore Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the State of Palestine, so as to ensure peace and security in the region.

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6. Invites the international community, in particular the two Sponsors of the Peace Conference and the States of the European Union to compel Israel to cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Syrian Golan, and to adopt firm positions towards these practices which contravene international resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 465 and the principles of International Law which consider all settlements established or to be established by Israel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, all the occupied Palestinian territories, and the Syrian Golan as null and void. It requests the Security Council to set up an International Monitoring Committee to prevent the establishment of settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

7. Calls for action within UN and international institutions and fora to compel to release the detainees; return the deportees; halt the methods of mass punishment; cease the confiscation of lands and properties and the demolition of homes; also cease any action that threaten life and the environment in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif. To call for a more effective UN action to ensure the success of the Middle East peace process, for a reaffirmation of the continued UN responsibility for the cause of Palestine until a just and comprehensive solution to all its aspects is found, a solution that puts an end to occupation and fulfills the imprescriptible and inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

8. Invites the international community, especially the cosponsor States of the Peace Conference and the States of the European Union to compel Israel to implement the agreements on the withdrawal of its troops from Al Khalil city and the other occupied Palestinian territories, close down the tunnel it had opened in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, enter in serious negotiations on the final status of the Palestinian territories provided for in the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties, resume negotiations on the Lebanese and Syrian tracks on the bases of the reference agreed upon at the Madrid Conference, and to endeavour to achieve just and comprehensive peace which would restore rights to whom they belong and which would ensure security, stability and prosperity for all peoples of the region.

9. Supports the resolutions stipulated in the statement adopted by the Arab Summit Conference, held in Cairo in July 1996, on the developments which resulted from policies of the present Israeli government and its deliberate impeding of the Peace Process.

10. Asserts that Israel's failure to honour the principles and basis of the peace process, its going back

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on the commitments, undertakings or agreements reached within the framework of this process or its procrastination in their implementation or repudiating them would lead to the relapse of the peace process, and holds the Israeli government responsible for that.

11. Strongly condemns the Israeli aggressive practices and measures especially the opening of a tunnel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif which endanger the Islamic and Christian holy shrines especially the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

12. Recommends that, in the event of a breakdown of the peace process, normalization of relations with Israel should be reconsidered and that consultations should be held on this question at the appropriate time in order to adopt the necessary measures.

13. Urges all States and concerned parties to extend their support to the international programme on economic, social and cultural developments in the occupied Palestinian territories to avail the Palestinian people of the necessary approved assistance for the reconstruction of its national economy and to back up its national institutions and enable it to establish its independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

14. Invites all States of the world to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might in any way be interpreted by those authorities, as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" they have imposed by the declaration of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. In this context, it should be proper to recall the UN Security Council Resolutions No. 465,476 and 478 which rule that the Israeli measures relating to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif are null and void and affirm that all the legislative, administrative and settlement measures aiming at changing the legal status of the Holy City are null and void, have no legal effects whatsoever and are a violation of international agreements, conventions and norms.

15. Calls for abiding by the provisions of the Islamic Boycott against Israel and to consider the legislation, rules and provisions governing the Boycott "the General Principles of the Boycott, Islamic law, the Internal Regulations and Sessional Meetings of the Regional Offices" as part of the current national legislations, and set up the necessary offices and mechanisms to serve that end.

16. Strongly condemns Israel's continuing occupation of Southern Lebanon and the Western Biqa'h region, its arbitrary practices and military acts of aggression against the Lebanese citizens and against the Palestinian refugees in their camps in Lebanon, calls upon the UN Security Council to take the necessary measures to /...

put an immediate end to these acts of aggression and demands Israel's immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal from the Lebanese territory. It affirms its resolve to maintain the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders. Moreover, it stresses the necessity of implementing the UN Security Council resolutions concerning Lebanon and in particular Resolution No.425 (1978).

17. Strongly condemns the policy of Israel in refusing to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981), and in imposing its jurisdiction, its laws and its administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, as well as Israel's policies of annexation, establishment of settlements, expropriation of lands, diversion of water resources and imposition of Israeli nationality on Syrian citizens. It considers that all those measures are null and void, and constitute a violation of the rules and principles of international law, relating to occupation and war and particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. It demands the complete withdrawal of Israel from the entire occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967.

18. Calls on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487(1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

19. Commends the efforts exerted by Al-Quds Committee, under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco.

20. Reaffirms the continued responsibility of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to carry on fulfilling the tasks assigned to it for the benefit of all the Palestinian citizens wherever they may be living in accordance with the resolution of the UN General Assembly in this regard, and calls upon the Member States to request the UN Secretary General to see to it that the Conciliation Committee undertakes in collaboration with the Relief Agency and the concerned states the preparation of a comprehensive

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inventory of Palestinian refugees and their property and come out with a integrated conception for the settlement of their problems on the basis of their right to return to their homeland Palestine in accordance with the UN Resolution No. 194.

21. Requests the Secretary General to take necessary measures for continuing and strengthening contacts and coordination on the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement, the European Union, and the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and expresses its appreciation for their all supportive stands and assistance for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

22. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2/24-P
ON THE CITY OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of the Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, contained in Document No. (ICFM/24-96/PAL/D.2);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Pursuant to the Islamic resolutions which reaffirm that the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms the core of the Palestinian issue which is the foremost Islamic cause, and core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that no comprehensive and just peace can be achieved without the return of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the Palestinian sovereignty, as the capital of the State of Palestine;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council, in particular resolutions 465, 476 and 478 on the city of Al-Quds which consider as null and void the Israeli Law annexing Al-Quds and claiming it as the unified capital of Israel;

Reaffirming Security Council Resolution No. 1073 dated 28 September, 1996 on the serious deterioration of the conditions in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Occupied Palestinian territories due to the opening of the tunnel;

Expressing its deep concern at the escalation of Israel's acts of aggression on the Holy Places in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the violation of its sanctity, and also over the deteriorating situation of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and all Islamic and Christian Holy Places, in particular the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock as a result of the increasing measures judaization and settlement in and around it, aimed at obliterating its Arab and Islamic landmarks;

Expressing its full solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, so as to enable its National Authority to face up to the forthcoming stage and firmly establish its National Authority and finalize establishing its institutions in all the occupied Palestinian territories, including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

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Reiterating Security Council's Resolution No. 681 which provides for the applicability of all the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 concerning the protection of civilians in times of war to the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Following attentively the continued peace efforts for the achievement of a just and comprehensive settlement to the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people, and the formula of land for peace;

Commending the constant efforts made by the Al-Quds Committee under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, King of Morocco;

1. Reaffirms all the resolutions issued by the relevant Islamic Conferences including those adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference on Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the recommendations of Al-Quds Committe at its former sessions.

2. Reaffirms that a jus and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without a full Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories foremost of which Al-Quds Al-Sharif as it represents an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 and that whatever is applicable to the rest of the occupied territories applies to it in implementation of UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, and urges action to halt all practices, and measures and decisions adopted by the authorities of Israeli occupation in Al-Quds Al-Sharif aimed at altering the geographic and demographic conditions and violating the sanctity of the Islamic and Christian shrines in order to judaize the Holy City. It calls for combined efforts to restore Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the State of Palestine in order to ensure peace and security in the region.

3. Invites the Member States to continue extending their support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation and to extend all forms of assistance to the Palestinian people for the transfer of all authorities and responsibilities in the occupied Palestinian territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to the Palestinian National Authority and to support the steadfastness of the citizens of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to establish developmental economic, cultural, social and architectural projects, to construct housing units, to restore their existing houses and to support the national Palestinian institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

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4. Invites all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted in any way by those authorities as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. It reaffirms that all legislative, administrative and settlements' procedures and measures aiming at altering the legal status of the Holy City are null and void and constitute a violation of international agreements, conventions and norms, as proclaimed by international legitimacy resolutions which include the UN Security Council resolutions No. 465, 476 and 478 (1980) as well as those of the UN General Assembly, all of which invalidate the Israeli procedures in question.

5. Further invites the international community, and in particular the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference, to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographical alteration in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif during the transitional period and to refrain from any action or measure which might affect the outcome of the negotiations on the final status of the City, adhere to the relevant international resolutions, lift the siege imposed on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, ensure the freedom of worship therein, and refrain from destroying houses, withdrawing identity cards of Palestinian citizens and emptying Al-Quds Al-Sharif of its Arab citizens.

6. Condemns Israel's persistence in the confiscation of Palestinian land in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the establishment of settlements there with the purpose of cutting if off from the rest of the occupied Palestinian territories and reaffirms the necessity of halting the expansion of the settlements existing in the Holy City and around it, dismantling the settlements and halting Jewish settlements in the occupied territories especially the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, with international guarantees provided to that effect.

7. Strongly condemns Israel's persistence in the excavation works around Al-Haram Al-Quds Al-Sharif especially the opening of a tunnel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif which endanger the Islamic and Christian holy shrines especially the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, it appeals to the international community and especially the Security Council Member States and the two cosponsors of the Peace Conference to take the necessary and immediate measures to compel Israel to close down this tunnel in accordance with resolution 1073 of the Security Council and to stop such aggressive practices, it underlines the need to preserve the Arab and Islamic Character of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the status quo of the city pursuant the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties.

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8. Strongly condemns the Israeli Supreme Court's decisions, particularly the decision adopted on 25.7.1996 allowing Jews to pray in the precinct of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and the decision issued on 23 September 1993, claiming the Blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa as part of the territory of the State of Israel, and considers it as premediated provocations aimed at opening the way for the Zionist extremist organizations to continue their violations against the sanctity of the Blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa, to establish their presence in its precincts, and to continue looting the religious, historical and cultural relics in Al-Quds and the Occupied Territories.

9. Strongly condemns Israel for the orders it has issued for closing the Palestinian institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and preventing them from operating freely, and considers such arbitrary measures as a continued violation of the agreements concluded between the Palestinian and Israeli parties within the framework of the peace process, as well as a blatant violation of international conventions and agreements, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and a breach of the principles and bases on which the Madrid Peace Process was established.

10. Strongly condemns the Israeli occupation authorities for holding festivities in commemoration of the so-called "Third Millennium of the construction of Al-Quds City" which represents a misleading campaign aimed at distorting historical facts concerning the holy city, which confirm its arabity over the past five thousand years, and invites the States of the world to boycott these festivities.

11. Calls upon all States to adhere to Security Council Resolution No. 478 (1980) which invites the member States to uphold the provisions of the said resolution and refrain from transferring their diplomatic missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. Takes note with appreciation of the general response of the states of the world to this resolution and their abidance by it.

12. Affirms the commitment of Member States to pursue and coordinate their action with regional and international organisations for the implementation of the international resolutions adopted by United Nations and its specialized agencies, in particular UNESCO, to stop the hostile measures and aggressive practices and the excavation work in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to safeguard its cultural and historical heritage.

13. Invites the Vatican, Eastern Churches and other Churches to take part in the resistance against the Judaization of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to extend support to its Arab citizens to resist the judaization measures and the attempt made to uproot them from their city.

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14. Reaffirms the resolutions of earlier Islamic Conferences which call for the extension of support to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the consolidation of the steadfastness of its citizens, through the implementation of the following activities:

(a) Inviting all Islamic States that have not, as yet, signed the documents twinning their capitals with the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the capital of the State of Palestine to take early action to this effect and to sponsor projects inside the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in support of it and of its steadfast citizens.

(b) Issuing of the postage stamp of Palestine permanently.

(c) Organizing Charity fairs in favour of Al-Quds Fund of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

(d) Undertaking contacts, symposia and festivals to counteract the acts of distortion of truth and deceit of public opinion carried out by Israel through the organisation of the so-called Third Millennium of the City of Al-Quds, and to expose these false allegations refuted by historical facts which prove the city's arabity over more than five thousand years.

(e) Sustained coordination on the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif with the League of Arab States and international and regional fora and organizations and holding international symposia on Al-Quds in different countries, in particular in the current circumstances so as to expose to the international public opinion the dangers facing Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to exert more efforts to safeguard the Holy City.

(f) Sustained coordination with the non-Governmental organisations and holding a symposium on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, in cooperation with them.

(g) Extending support to educational institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, both schools and universities, and enabling them to fulfill their mission against the judaization of the Holy City.

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(h) Extending necessary financial support for the restoration of historical buildings and derelict houses in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and for the construction of houses for Arab citizens so as to bolster their steadfast resistance and thwart plans for the judaization of the holy city.

(i) Issuing of the postage stamp of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

15. Expresses the hope that the decisions of the recent meeting of the Al-Quds Committee will be put into effect.

16. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3/24-P
ON
THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of the Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the item titled "The Occupied Syrian Golan" and Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan;

Having reviewed the repressive measures to which the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan are being subjected and Israel's continued attempts to force them to accept Israeli identity;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences, the latest being Resolution 4/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference in Casablanca and Resolution 3/23-P of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Conakry, Republicof Guinea, in 1995;

Recalling also Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) and the relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions, the latest of which is resolution adopted by the Fifty-first Session in 1996;

Observing that Israel, in contravention of Article 25 of the United Nations Charter, has refused to accept and implement the numerous relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council, in particular resolution 497 (1981);

Concerned at the fact that Israel has not withdrawn from the occupied Syrian Golan which it occupies since 1967 contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;

Expressing concern over Israel's disavowal of the Peace Process which was launched by the Madrid Conference on the basis of the UN Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425, as well as peace-for-land formula and over the risk resulting from Israel's renuniciation of the commitments and obligations reached;

1. Lauds the steadfastness of the Syrian Arab citizens in the Golan against the occupation and their valiant resistance to Israel's repressive measures and against the desperate attempts to weaken their attachment to their land and to their Syrian Arab identity.

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2. Strongly condemns Israel for its non-compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 497 (1981).

3. Reaffirms that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Occupied Syrian Golan is illegal, null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever and that it constitutes a flagrant violation of the OIC Charter and relevant resolutions, the UN Charter and relevant resolutions, and the principles of International Law in particular, the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force.

4. Declares that the Knesset decision of 11 November 1981 sanctioning the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void, has no legal effect, and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981).

5. Strongly condemns Israel for its persistence in changing the legal status, demographic composition and institutional structure of the Occupied Syrian Golan, and for its policy and practices of confiscating lands, appropriating water resources, establishing settlements and transferring settlers and immigrants thereto and of imposing an economic boycott of the agricultural products of the local population and prohibiting their exportation.

6. Strongly condemns Israel's attempts to impose Israeli nationality and identity cards on the Syrian Arab citizens, as these measures constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other international bodies.

7. Reaffirms the applicability of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian population in time of war to the occupied Syrian Golan.

8. Calls upon all states to halt the flow of any military, economic, financial, technological and human assistance to Israel which may extend the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and encourage Israel to pursue its expansionist policy against the Arab countries.

9. Reaffirms that the continued occupation by Israel of the Syrian Golan since 1967 and its annexation on 14 December 1981 following Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration over these territories constitute a constant threat to peace and security in the region.

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10. Strongly reaffirms its demand that Israel, the occupying authority, at once repeals its illegal decision adopted on 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration over the Syrian Golan and which was behind the actual annexation of these territories.

11. Demands Israel to fully withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of the Fourth of June 1967.

12. Invites the international community to prompt and compel Israel to a total withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan and the other occupied Arab territories in order to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

13. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, and to submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION No. 4/24-P
ON
THE OCCUPATION OF LEBANESE TERRITORY BY ISRAEL AND CONTINUING TO DETAIN LEBANESE IN ITS PRISONS AND DETENTION CAMPS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of the Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference on the solidarity with the Lebanese Government to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories;

Recalling the resolutions of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva on the conditions of human rights in Southern Lebanon, Wester Bikaa and prisons in areas occupied by Israel.

Expressing deep concern over the continued Israeli occupation of parts of Southern Lebanon and the Western Bikaa which constitutes a flagrant violation of the provisions of the international law and persistence in disregarding Security Council Resolution No.425.

Strongly condemns Israeli aggression and arbitrary practices in occupied Lebanese territories particularly the kidnaping and detention of innocent citizens and their imprisonment without trials in Israeli prisons and those controlled by its puppet forces in flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relating to the protection of civilian population in the time of war and the Convention of the Hague of 1907.

Strongly condemning the brutal Israeli aggression launched against Lebanon, particularly its southern regions and the Western Bikaa during the month of April 1996 which claimed the lives of hundreds of civilian population, and injured thousands and displaced more than half a million citizens from Lebanese cities and villages in the South and the Western Bikaa, and caused heavy casualties in the basic economic facilities and the country's infrastructure as well as its historic archeological landmarks which were targeted by Israeli land, maritime and air bombardment in several Lebanese areas;

Recalling the report of the United Nations Secretary General on the brutal massacre perpetrated in Cana by Israel and the latter's full responsibility for the deliberate aggression committed by its troops against civilians.

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Expressing deep concern over the continued bombardment, by Israel and its collaborators, against civilian population and targetss contrary to the understanding of April 1996;

Confirming Lebanon's right to reparations for human casualties and the damages resulting from repeated Israeli attacks;

1. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued occupation of parts of Southern Lebanon and the Lebanese Western Bikaa, and demands the international community and, especially the UN and all its organs to endeavours to implement Security Council Resolution No. 425 (1978) which provides for Israel's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all the occupied Lebanese territories to the international boundaries.

2. Demands the international community to take all necessary measures with Israel so that the latter may immediately release all Lebanese prisoners and kidnapped individuals from Israeli prisons and those controlled by its puppet forces in contravention of the provisions of the international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) and the Convention of the Hague (1907). It urges OIC Member States to approach the international organisations to take all measures with the Government of Israel, the occupying authority with the aim of enabling the International Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations to visit the prisoners detained in Al-Khiyann and Marjaioun camps on regular basis to examine their conditions and to ensure medical and humanitarian care for them and to allow-their relatives to visit them regularly.

3. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued aggression against Lebanese territories indicating its non-compliance with the letter and spirit of April understanding by which the parties concerned committed themselves not to target civilians under any circumstances.

4. Demands the international community, the international organisations and the Member States to exert pressure on Israel to pay reparations to Lebanon for the damages resulting from its continued aggression against Lebanese territories, particularly the aggression launched by Israel against Lebanon in April 1996 and to endeavour to halt the arbitrary and inhuman Israeli practices against the defenseless populations in the occupied Southern Lebanese territories and the Western Bikaa.

5. Asserts its support and backing for the efforts exerted by the Lebanese State to impose its control and sovereignty over the totality of its territories including the parts occupied by Israel in Southern Lebanon and Western Bikka.

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RESOLUTION NO. 5/24-P
ON
AL-QUDS FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of the Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf contained in Document No. ICFM/24-96/PAL/D.3;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Referring to all the Islamic Resolutions adopted on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf;

Reaffirming the principle of consolidating Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just and legitimate struggle;

Paying tribute to Member States that regularly fulfil their obligations and make donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf;

Appreciating the significance of the vital role played by Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to support the steadfastness and Jihad of the Palestinian people within the occupied Palestinian territories, and particularly the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Noting with great concern Israel's continued pursuit of its aggressive, expansionist and settlement policy;

Commending the positive role played by the Governing Board of Al-Quds Fund in quest of financial resources to promote the Fund and its Waqf;

Expressing its concern over the continuing critical financial situation of the Fund and seeing the necessity of overcoming it so as to enable the Fund to realize the objectives entrusted to it;

1. Reaffirms all previous relevant resolutions adopted by successive Islamic Conferences.

2. Reiterates all recommendations and resolutions of the earlier meetings of the Governing Board of Al-Quds Fund.

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3. Calls upon Member States to honour their commitment to cover the approved budgets for Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf amounting to a hundred million U.S. Dollars each and urges Member States to take steps towards paying their contributions and appeals to those which have not pledged donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to do so.

4. Expresses its profound thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the continued support to Al-Quds Fund, which falls within the framework of their consistent solicitude towards the foremost cause of the Islamic Ummah, namely that of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine. It further hails the annual appeal addressed by H.R.H. Prince Salman Bin Abdulaziz, Emir of the Province of Riyadh and Chairman of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Supreme Committee for the welfare of the Palestinian freedom fighters, to the citizens and residents to make donations for the benefit of Al-Quds Fund. It urges Member States to continue their donations campaign in favour of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, together with the appropriate directives to the public and other media to conduct a special campaign for this purpose.

5. Urges Member States to encourage the organisation, at local and Islamic levels of festivals, exhibitions and charity bazars, whose proceeds would enhance the resources of the Fund and its Waqf.

6. Calls upon Member States to continue their support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, especially at this decisive stage, for the consolidation of its national authority over all occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, capital of the independent Palestinian State, and to extend all forms of support to the Palestinian people so that they may build up their institutions and national economy.

7. Commends the positive role played by Al-Quds Fund in supporting the steadfastness and boosting the struggle of the Palestinian people.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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B. Political affairs

RESOLUTION NO. 6/24-P
ON THE
REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC which emphasize the commitment of Islamic Ummah to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Bearing in mind the obligation of all States to act in conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter;

Reaffirming all OIC resolutions and declarations relating to the just struggle of the Bosnian people for peace, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular the Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership adopted by the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina on 10 April, 1996;

1. Reaffirms the commitment of the OIC Member States to the legal continuity, integrity and sovereignty of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and fully supports the establishment of a democratic, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. Reiterates the position of the OIC Member States to participate fully in the implementation of all aspects of the Dayton Peace Agreement.

3. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring the full, effective, consistent and impartial implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement and urges the international community, particularly the Members of the UN Security Council, the Five Nation Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Peace Implementation Council to support the peaceful and democratic reintegration of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. Expresses grave concern that the conditions stipulated under the Dayton Peace Agreement for the holding of free and fair elections were not fulfilled in the 14 September elections, specifically in the Serb entity, and also expresses serious concern over the negative role of separatists during the elections and cautions the

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international community of these threats posed to the democratic reunification of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Underlines the need for strong and continuous political support of international community to the effective and consistent implementation of the Action program of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) for Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted at the London Conference of the PIC, 4 and 5 of December 1996, to stabilize peace and to speed up the process of peaceful and democratic reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to preserve its sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity.

6. Stresses the vital importance of ensuring freedom of movement of people, goods, services and information throughout the country and the return of refugees and displaced persons to their places of origin under safe and secure conditions thus promoting the process of reconciliation, democratization and reintegration in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7. Emphasizes the need for vigorous action against separatists and calls on the international community to support the viability, effective and continuous functioning of the common institutions for the smooth reintegration of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

8. Urges the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) to undertake all necessary measures to establish effective air space control and the frontier control on all internationally recognized borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

9. Urges the international community to take concrete measures for the arrest of all indicated war criminals notably Karadzic and Mladic, and calls on the UN Security Council to utilize the enforcement procedures under the UN Charter, including those envisaged under Chapter VII, to secure the delivery of these criminals by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Republic of Croatia.

10. Requests Member States to support the important work of the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to thoroughly investigate the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Serbs against the Bosnian people and to provide urgent financial assistance to the Tribunal, particularly to locate mass graves, identify victims of genocide and notify surviving family members.

11. Calls on the Security Council to ensure the compliance from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia

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and Montenegro) and Republika Srpska-entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, consistent with the Dayton Peace Agreement, orders of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia in accordance with the relevant provisions of UN Security Council resolution 1074.

12. Supports all necessary measures to strengthen and render effective the state, economic and social institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, thus helping the country to speed up the reconstruction process and to establish external relations with the rest of the world, and to regularize the debt problems of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

13. Expresses full support for the legal action of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina against FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) in the International Court of Justice for genocide.

14. Reaffirms strong support for the Security Council resolution 777 (1992) and General Assembly resolution 47/1 (1992) which decided that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should apply as new member of the United Nations and should not inherit the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which has ceased to exist.

15. Reiterates the support of the OIC countries to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina relating to the question of succession of States, particularly the freezing of the assets of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia until the outcome of the succession procedure.

16. Supports the holding of free, fair and democratic elections on municipal level, supervised by OSCE for the establishment of local democratic institutions.

17. Urges all countries and multilateral institutions that have pledged resources for the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina to immediately disburse the funds in order to ensure timely completion of priority projects and reiterates the readiness of the OIC Member States and OIC institutions in providing resources for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina by promoting bilateral programmes of assistance and cooperation as well as through the OIC Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and better coordination of institutions of the OIC and NGOs.

18. Stresses the need for resolving the problem of Brcko through speeding up the arbitration procedure, keeping in view its strategic importance for the Federation and the fact that Brcko was subjected to grave violations of human rights by the Serbs.

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19. Reaffirms support for the equipping and training of the Federation Armed Forces which will foster long-term regional stability by creating a credible self-defense capability for the Federation.

20. Expresses concern that the Serb entity and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) have not cooperated in good faith with the regional stabilization and arms limitation agreements envisaged by the Dayton Peace Agreement and completed in Vienna and Florence and called upon the international community to ensure full compliance.

21. Expresses the hope that the impediments to the full establishment and functioning of the Federation authorities, such as self styled Herceg Bosna, will be eliminated in accordance with the relevant Agreements reached.

22. Welcomes the steps taken on mutual recognition of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other states deriving from Former Yugoslavia and expresses readiness to cooperate with all of them subject to their full and effective recognition and respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

23. Invites the international community and the OIC Member countries to support the legitimate struggle of the Bosnian Muslim people of Sandjak for their equal national and civil rights.

24. Requests the Chairman of the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 7/24-P
ON
ACTION PROGRAMME FOR BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the Declaration of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina (IS/7-94/Dec.2), Resolution Nos. 6/23-P, 10/23-E, 17/23-C and 20/23-C adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held at Conakry from 9 to 12 December, 1995, Declaration on Friendship and Partnership of the Enlarged Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina at Sarajevo on 10 April 1996, Declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina at Geneva on 31 July 1996, the Final Communique of the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs at New York on 2 October 1996, the resolution on Bonsia and Herzegovina of this Meeting, as well as recommendations by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and the Report of the Research Center for Islamic History, Art and culture (IRCICA, Istanbul), as well as Chairman's Reports of the Meetings of the Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia-Herzegovina held in Islamabad and Sarajevo;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference and reaffirming the commitment to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political and economic independence of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Aware of the massive destruction of infrastructure and production capacities, enormous human losses, hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons, unprecedented destruction and devastation of cultural and religious objects, serious social problems and consequences on the social and political life as well as the peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Reiterating and reaffirming the readiness of the OIC member countries to continue, better organize, streamline and coordinate their humanitarian assistance, contribution to the reconstruction of infrastructure, productive capacities and rehabilitation of cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Reconfirming the concrete pledges of the OIC countries channelled through the International Programme for Reconstruction, through bilateral assistance and through the OIC Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina;

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Proceeding from the spirit of the Sarajevo Declaration on Friendship and Partnership of the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, held in Sarajevo on 10 April 1996 and in accordance with the decision of the OIC to participate effectively in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement, particularly in the process of reconstruction, the Ministers decided to adopt the following OIC Action Programme:

1. Humanitarian Assistance:

   - Providing bilateral assistance directly, through the OIC Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina, OIC institutions and the NGOs financially or in kind for the urgent needs of displaced persons, returnees and socially vulnerable groups (demobilized soldiers, families of killed soldiers, orphans, wounded and disabled persons, and retired persons);

   - Providing financial inputs for the Social Fund, Fund for shaheeds and invalids and other institutions and for all vulnerable social groups on regional and local levels;

   - Providing assistance for the projects aimed at rehabilitating housing and basic infrastructure for displaced persons and returnees.

2. Reconstruction of infrastructure and production capacity:

   - Creating political and legal framework for cooperation with the state institutions, economic and research institutions, and financial and private sectors (diplomatic relations, mutual agreements and contracts on economic, technological and technical cooperation, etc.);

   - Establishing the member states and/or common institutions of OIC in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aiming at analyzing and streamlining joint efforts of OIC partners and partners of Bosnia and Herzegovina in different areas of cooperation;

   - Establishing joint financial institutions, like Revolving Fund for the revival of production capacities, either on the basis of grants, participation on economic basis, or in a combined way, particularly for the small and medium sized enterprises in order to promote the creation of new jobs;

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- Encouraging the business community to participate in the OIC joint ventures or equity operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina or in third countries, including the OIC countries;

- Facilitating the issuance of bank guaranties for firms from Bosnia and Herzegovina operating abroad, particularly in the OIC countries, thus contributing to the repayment capacities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- Assisting the relevant authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the area of demining aiming at creating the conditions for reconstruction activities and saving the lives of people.

3. Rehabilitation of cultural heritage:

- Implementing effectively and urgently operative paragraphs of Resolution No. 19/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 13-15 December 1994, particularly:

  (i) to draw up a programme for rebuilding the national, university libraries and schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

  (ii) to work in coordination with relevant UN international bodies and Islamic institutions on urgent steps to ensure the protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural objects in Bosnia and Herzegovina which are the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

- Implementing the recommendations of the 19th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, calling for every economic support and assistance to ensure the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly:

  (i) to research the Islamic heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina, damages inflicted and assistance to be provided for its rehabilitation by creating awareness of the international community for these purposes;

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(ii) to urgently help the Project Mostar 2004 on reconstruction and conservation of the Old city and other monuments of high cultural importance in Sarajevo, Tuzla, Zenica and other places.

4. Legal support and assistance:

- Supporting continuously the legal action of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina against Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for genocide in the International Court of Justice;
- Keeping assets of the Former Yugoslavia frozen until the legal procedure on succession is resolved;
- Supporting the legal authorities of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina in pursuing persons responsible for crimes against humanity, humanitarian law and for genocide.

5. Self-defence:

- Participating effectively in the "Train and Equip Programme" of the Federation Army;
- Cooperating with the research institutions and production units of Bosnia and Herzegovina aiming at strengthening its self-defense capability.

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RESOLUTION NO. 8/24-P
ON
JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISPUTE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic Ummah;

Emphasizing the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and recalling the UN resolutions relevant to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute which remain unimplemented;

Recalling that the Simla Agreement signed between the Governments of India and Pakistan calls for a final settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue;

Reaffirming the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charters of the OIC and the United Nations;

Recalling the Special Declaration on Jammu and Kashmir adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and previous OIC resolutions on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;

Expressing concern at the alarming increase in the indiscriminate use of force and gross violations of human rights committed against innocent Kashmiris;

Recalling the Report of the OIC Fact Finding Mission on the situation in Kashmir following its visit to Azad Jammu and Kashmir in February 1993, and regretting that the human rights situation in Indian held Jammu and Kashmir remains serious;

Regretting also that the Government of India has not responded favourably so far to the offer of the Good Offices Mission made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and renewed by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences;

Further regretting that the OIC Fact Finding Mission was not allowed to visit Indian held Jammu and Kashmir;

Noting the report of the Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir and endorsing the recommendations contained therein;

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Taking note of the strong condemnation by Pakistan and the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people, including the leadership of the All Parties Hurrieyet Conference of the deplorable act of hostage taking by "Al-Faran" and calling for the immediate and safe release of all the hostages;

Taking note of the Memorandum submitted by the True Representatives of Jammu and Kashmir, which inter-alia, asserts that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will not accept the imposition of a fraudulent political process in Kashmir and that the so-called political process or elections could not be a substitute for a plebiscite as is affirmed in Security Council Resolutions No. 91 (1951) and 122 (1957);

1. Takes note of the Report of the Secretary General on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and endorses the recommendations contained therein (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.2).

2. Calls for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement.

3. Condemns the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and calls for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination.

4. Calls upon Member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

5. Affirms that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by people of Kashmir as is provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.

6. Calls upon India to allow International Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

7. Supports the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and calls upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts.

8. Affirms that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

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9. Expresses its deep concern at the prevailing tension that threatens security and peace in the region as a result of the large scale deployment of Indian troops in the Indian held Jammu and Kashmir.

10. Calls upon India and Pakistan to redeploy their forces to peace-time locations.

11. Appeals to the Member States, OIC and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

12. Requests the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences.

13. Requests the Secretary General to establish contact with the governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

14. Appreciating the efforts made by the Secretary General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requests him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.

15. Requests the Secretary General to send a three member OIC Fact Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir as decided by the Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second and Twenty-third Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers as well as the Seventh Extra-ordinary session and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences, and to submit a report to him.

16. Requests the Government of India to allow the OIC Fact-Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

17. Recommends that Member States continue to coordinate their positions and to take action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. Commends the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir.

19. Requests the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to continue its efforts for promoting the right of

self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

20. Decides to consider the Jammu and Kashmir Dispute at the Twenty-fifth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and at the next Islamic Summit Conference.

21. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to present reports thereon to the Twenty-fifth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the next Session of the Islamic Summit.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/24-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and resolutions of the Islamic Conferences, which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic Ummah;

Affirming anew the right of all peoples to decide the form of government they wish to have and to choose their own political, economic and social systems, free from all forms of foreign intervention, coercion or pressure;

Recalling the principled stand adopted by the Islamic Conference in its resolutions on Afghanistan since January 1980;

Reiterating its commitment to the promotion of peace and stability in Afghanistan and to the safeguarding of the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of this country;

Recalling all relevant U.N. resolutions on the situation in Afghanistan and its implication for international peace and stability;

Noting the establishment of the Islamic State in Afghanistan and successful conclusion of the Afghan Jihad;

Recalling the Afghan Peace Accord signed in Islamabad and ratified at Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 18 Ramadan, 1413H (11 March 1993) as well as in Tehran;

Noting with serious concern that the Afghan parties have not been able, so far, to evolve a national consensus as a consequence of which the political crisis has deepened and the armed conflict has continued;

Seriously concerned over the tragic humanitarian dimensions of this conflict which has caused immense loss of life, wide spread destruction, deprivation and famine in various parts of Afghanistan as well as large scale exodus of refugees and displacement of population within Afghanistan;

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Reaffirming the need for scrupulous respect for the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in Afghanistan; and stressing that the main responsibility for finding a political solution to the conflict lies with the Afghan people themselves;

Underlining the importance of providing humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan and the urgent need to take international actions in this regard:

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary General on the situation in Afghanistan (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.2) and the encouraging response of the Afghan parties to the OIC's call to put an end to the hostilities and immediate commencement of negotiations.

2. Expresses its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan.

3. Calls upon Afghan parties for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and support for all the efforts being made in this regard.

4. Emphasizes the need for promoting national reconciliation and rapprochement as well as for the establishment of a broad-based government, demobilization of armed groups and formation of national army and police force.

5. . Expresses its appreciation and support for the initiatives taken by the Secretary General to promote a credible intra-Afghan peace process.

6. Calls upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative for promoting peace in Afghanistan.

7. Calls upon all States immediately to end the supply of arms and ammunition to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan.

8. Reaffirms the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences that the OIC should have an active role in the solution of the Afghanistan problem.

9. Emphasizes the need for effective protection of all diplomatic missions in Kabul in conformity with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961.

10. Calls for respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and Islamic character of Afghanistan and non-interference in its internal affairs.

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11. Emphasizes the need for continued close coordination of efforts between OIC and UN for promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan by setting a credible intra-Afghan mechanism.

12. Expresses its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute economic and political problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and in this regard, encourages the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the UN Special Mission.

13. Notes with satisfaction all the efforts made by various international organizations, particularly the UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in providing humanitarian assistance to the war victims inside Afghanistan under most difficult circumstances.

14. Requests the Islamic Development Bank to evaluate the war damage and destruction in Afghanistan and to prepare a comprehensive report on requirements for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country.

15. Appeals to the international community, in particular Member States, to respond to the humanitarian exigencies of the situation in Afghanistan by extending generous assistance.

16. Urges Member States and Islamic financial institutions to provide assistance for the Afghan refugees in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran and calls for the speedy and voluntary repatriation and rehabilitation of Afghan refugees.

17. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit reports thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.10/24-P
ON THE
SITUATION IN SOMALIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and resolutions adopted by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences on the situation in Somalia;

Gravely concerned about the factional fighting and civil strife which has virtually destroyed Somalia, caused immense suffering to its people and has serious implications for the national unity, territorial integrity and political independence of this Islamic country;

Commending the timely initiative of His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference in requesting the Security Council to send peace keeping forces to Somalia, in pursuarce of Resolution 13/6-P(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit as well as his proposal to the 47th Session of the UN General Assembly for the convening of an International Conference for Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia;

Appreciating the initiative of H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic of Yemen by inviting the Somali factions to hold a Somali national reconciliation conference in Sanaa;

Urging all Somali factions to respond to the invitation of the Republic of Yemen and their effective participation in the national reconciliation conference to be held in Sanaa.

Noting with satisfaction the intensive efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, in cooperation with the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity, in the framework of joint approach, which has produced positive results;

Taking Note of all relevant Security Council Resolutions on Somalia;

Noting also the signing of the Addis Ababa Agreement for Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia in March 1993 as well as the results of the informal consultations between the Somali factions held in Nairobi in March 1994;

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Commending the tremendous efforts made by the international community in providing relief and humanitarian assistance to the victims of war and famine in Somalia through effective and coordinated efforts under the framework of the Security Council;

Encouraging the ongoing efforts of the regional States and the Organization of African Unity for promoting peace in Somalia;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General, (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.4);

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia.

2. Notes with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the suffering of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and calls for continuation of such efforts and requests the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

3. Calls for the convening of an international conference on peace and national reconciliation in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of all the Somali parties and all the concerned international and regional organizations.

4. Welcomes the signature of the Addis Ababa Agreement for the establishment of peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, and invites all the Somali factions to work for the simultaneous disarmament of all the militias and other groups.

5. Expresses its appreciation for the initiative of H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Republic of Yemen by calling for the holding of a Somali National Reconciliation Conference in Sanaa and welcomes the acceptance of the principal Somali factions of this invitation.

6. Calls on all Somali factions to positively respond to the invitation extended by the Republic of Yemen and affirms the necessity for their effective participation in the national reconciliation conference in Sanaa in the spirit of Islamic brotherhood so as to achieve peace and preserve the unity, territorial integrity and independence of Somalia.

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7. Decides to extend its full support to the ongoing efforts of the regional States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity in Somalia.

8. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have contributed troops to UN operation in Somalia as well as those which have provided relief and humanitarian assistance to the Somali people.

9. Urges all Member States to extend financial and material assistance to Yemen so as to enable it to overcome the problem of the refugees and to provide them with the means that would ensure their safe return to their countries.

10. Calls upon the international community, especially the Member States, to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Somalia by continuing to provide urgent humanitarian assistance such as food and medicine in order to enable Somalia to rebuild the institutions and the educational infrastructures and to absorb all the youth in the general education schools inside Somalia as well as offer scholarships at the university level in the universities of Member States.

11. Calls upon all states, in particular the neighbouring states, to cooperate in the implementation of the arms embargo established by Security Council Resolution 733 (1992) and also calls upon all Somali factions to enter into negotiations for a constructive dialogue for a peaceful settlement of the problem.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 11/24-P
ON THE
CONSEQUENCES OF IRAQI AGGRESSION AGAINST THE STATE OF KUWAIT AND THE NECESSITY FOR IRAQ TO IMPLEMENT ALL THE RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the Secretary General to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.5);

Considering the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which calls for strengthening Islamic solidarity among Member States;

Taking note of recent developments in the situation between Iraq and Kuwait;

Mindful of the fundamental interests of the Islamic Ummah and of Islamic solidarity;

1. Calls upon Iraq to pursue efforts towards the fulfillment of its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, for the establishment of security, peace and stability in the region.

2. Calls on Iraq to cooperate fully and seriously with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Committee in Geneva which was established under its sponsorship and supervision, with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para. 2C and Para. 3C of resolutions No. 686 (1991) and (30) of resolution No. 687 (1991) pertaining to urgent release of prisoners and hostages from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any others so as to put an end to this situation and para 15(d) which relates to return of Kuwaiti properties by Iraq.

3. Affirms that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed accountable for implementing Para 2-B of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which involve the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss or direct harm, including any attendant environmental damages, depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.

4. Reaffirms, Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any /...

other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq.

5. Emphasizes that Iraq must commit itself to the implementation of all requirements in full by providing all information on its armaments' programme in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council; and must fully cooperate with the Committee concerned with the elimination of the weapons of Mass destruction (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

6. Welcomes the agreement reached between the United Nations and Iraq regarding the issue of (oil for food supplies) in implementation of the UN Security Council Res. no. 986 (1995) which provides for the supply of the Iraq's people's basic needs in terms of food and medicine.

7. Reaffirms respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq; expresses its sympathy with the Iraqi people and welcomes, in this respect, Security Council Resolutions No. 986 (1995) and considers same to be a step that should be accepted and implemented by Iraq so as to alleviate this suffering.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 12/24-P
ON THE
AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Gravely concerned over the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan which has resulted in the occupation of more than 20% of Azeri territory;

Deeply distressed over the plight of more than one million Azeri displaced persons and refugees resulting from Armenian aggression and magnitude and severity of humanitarian problems;

Reaffirming all previous relevant resolutions and, in particular, the resolution on this matter, adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 12 Rajab, 1415H (13-14 December 1994);

Conscious of the threat posed to international peace and security by the Armenian aggression;

Urging strict adherence to the Charter of the UN and full implementation of Security Council resolutions;

Welcoming all diplomatic and other efforts for the settlement of the conflict;

Reaffirming all Member States respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Reaffirming also that acquisition of land by use of force cannot be recognized.

Noting also the destructive influence of the policy of aggression of the Republic of Armenia on the peace process in the OSCE framework;

1. Strongly condemns the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan.

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2. Considers the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri population in occupied Azeri territory as crimes against humanity.

3. Strongly condemns looting and destruction of the archeological cultural and religious monuments on the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

4. Strongly demands the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories inter alia Lachin and Shusha regions and strongly urges Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

5. Expresses its concern that Armenia has not yet implemented demands contained in the UN Security Council resolutions.

6. Calls on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan; take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and decides to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

7. Urges all States to refrain from providing any supplies of military arms and equipment to Armenia, which can encourage the aggressor to escalate the conflict and to continue the occupation of the Azerbaijani territories. The territory of the OIC Member States should not be used for transit of such supplies.

8. Calls upon the OIC Member States, as well as other members of the international community, to use such effective political and economic measures as required in order to put an end to Armenian aggression and to occupation of the Azerbaijani territories.

9. Calls for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers.

10. Urges both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states member of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing OSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

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11. Reaffirms its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country.

12. Calls for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity.

13. Expresses its appreciation to all Member States which have made humanitarian assistance to the refugees and displaced persons and urges all the others to extend their contributions to these people.

14. Expresses its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan and requests the OIC Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

15. Considers, that Azerbaijan has the right for appropriate compensation with regard to damages it suffered, and puts the responsibility for the adequate compensation of these damages on Armenia.

16. Requests the Secretary General to convey to the OSCE Chairman-in-Office the position of the OIC Member States on this matter.

17. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and to submit a Report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/24-P
ON
THE UNITED STATES AGGRESSION AGAINST THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Believing in the common destiny of Islamic States and in solidarity among themselves;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Reaffirming the support pledged by the OIC to the Islamic and Arab countries subjected to imperialist and Zionist threats;

Taking into consideration the obligation of all States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of any other State;

Recalling all the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers which condemned the measures taken by the United States Administration against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya and affirmed its right to obtain adequate reparations for the material and human losses it had sustained;

Also recalling the resolution of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference which condemned the United States aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and confirmed its right to full reparations for the material and human losses arising therefrom;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the United States aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (ICFM/24-96/ PIL/D.7);

1. Once again decides:

(a) to condemn the United States aggression and threats and plots against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

(b) to support the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the physical and human losses sustained as a result of aggression.

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(c) to support the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.

2. Reaffirms its solidarity with the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the economic boycott measures which seek to undermine its plans for development.

3. Condemns the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and calls for their cancellation forthwith as they violate international law and conventions.

4. Calls upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the action taken in this regard.

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RESOLUTION NO. 14/24-P ON THE CRISIS BETWEEN THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYIA, ON THE ONE HAND AND THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AND REPUBLIC OF FRANCE, ON THE OTHER

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having studied the item concerning the current crisis between the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the one hand, and both the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Republic of France on the other;

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations which stipulates that all Member States are committed to refrain from the use or the threat of use of force in their international relations; the settlement of their disputes by peaceful means; respect for the independence of all Member States' and refrain from any threat to their sovereignty, territorial integrity and safety of their people;

Reaffirming the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference No. 13/7-P (IS) on this crisis as well as all previous Islamic resolutions and statements issued by the regional Organizations such as the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, and the Non-Aligned Movement, all of which that had called for solidarity with the Great Jamahiriya and had supported its efforts aiming at the achievement of a peaceful solution for the crisis within the framework of respect for the Libyan national sovereignty and principles of international law;

Taking note of the stand of the Great Jamahiriya that denounces all forms and types of terrorism and condemns all those that use or encourage it, and its willingness to cooperate with any international or regional efforts exerted for the solution of this problem;

Expressing satisfaction with the positive initiatives undertaken by the Great Jamahiriya for the solution of this crisis and its acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 731/92 and its request to the UN Secretary General to find out the mechanism for the implementation of this resolution while expressing its complete readyness to cooperate within the context of the initiatives it has taken and the proposals it has put forward;

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Expressing its deep concern over the humanitarian and material damages inflicted upon the Libyan Arab people and the neighbouring peoples, as a result of the unjust sanctions imposed in implementation of unjust UN Security Council resolutions Nos. 748/92 and 883/93;

Expressing its regret over the disregarding and neglecting, by the three Western States, of the successive resolutions adopted by the regional organizations so as to ensure a just and equitable solution to the dispute;

And reaffirming the risks posed by the continuation without a solution acceptable to all parties concerned of this crisis (Lockerbie) to the security and peace of the world, particularly to the North African and the Mediterranean Regions;

Proceeding from the principles and Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference calling for promoting Islamic solidarity among the Member States;

Referring to (para 163) of the Final Document adopted by the Eleventh Session of the Non-Alignment Movement Summit No.NAC11/DOC-1/REV.2 dated 20 October, 1995;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this crisis (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.8);

1. Expresses its appreciation to the declaration of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of its repeated condemnation of terrorism and its full readiness to cooperate within the context of efforts exerted by any quarter to combat and suppress terrorism. It commends the spirit of responsibility and self-restraint with which the Great Jamahiriya is handling this crisis.

2. Expresses its concern over the escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose further sanctions or to use force as a means of interaction among states, and thereby violating the United Nations Charter as well as international laws and norms.

3. Affirms its solidarity with the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and recommends to all parties concerned to avoid all procedures that may lead to the escalation of tension which is detrimental to the Libyan people and neighbouring States.

4. Expresses its appreciation to the willingness of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to settle the dispute peacefully and cooperate in conducting a useful dialogue with the parties to the conflict.

5. Condemns the continuation of sanctions against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya despite /...

the efforts and initiatives of various regional and international organizations aimed at achieving a peaceful and just solution according to international law.

6. Reiterates its appeal to the Security Council to reconsider its resolutions 731/92, 748/92 and 883/93 and lift the sanctions imposed on the Great Jamahiriya.

7. Calls on all parties concerned to respond to the call for dialogue and negotiation aimed at reaching a peaceful solution to the crisis in accordance with Article (33) of Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter which stipulates the resolution of crises by negotiations, mediation and legal settlement according to the rules of international law. It also calls for giving suspected individuals a just and fair trial in a neutral country agreed upon by the parties concerned.

8. Declares its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States No. 5373-DA, (101)-C3) on 27 March 1993 calling for the holding of a just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and for urging the Security Council to take into consideration this serious proposal to seek a peaceful solution so as to avoid any escalation of the situation that may result in increasing the tension in the region.

9. Supports the right of the Great Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for material and human losses and damages it sustained as a result of implementation of Security Council Resolutions No.731/92, 748/92 and 883/93.

10. Affirms its solidarity with the Great Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and in confronting the economic boycott measures which undermine development plans therein.

11. Calls upon the three Western States to respond positively to the requests, and proposals made by regional organizations and the flexibility displayed by the Great Jamahirya to settle the crisis peacefully, and considers that failure to respond positively to these endeavours delayed considerably the realizatoin of a solution to the crisis and redoubled the hardships experienced by the Libyan people. And that the continuation of these sanctions would prompt Islamic States to consider possible means to avert inflicting further damages on the Libyan people and to alleviate their suffering.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and to submit a report thereon to the Member States.

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RESOLUTION NO.15/24-P
ON
SOLIDARITY WITH THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN AND THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA CONCERNING THE D'AMATO LAW

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Believing in the objectives and principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in strengthening Islamic solidarity among the Member States and taking the necessary measures to promote peace and security based on justice;

Conforming with the general international orientation towards freedom of trade exchanges and economic transactions;

Reiterating that the unilateral measures which affect other parties and attempts to impose the domestic laws on the territories of other countries run counter to the principles of international law that govern inter-state relations.

1- Emphasizes the principles of the OIC and the UN Charter which stipulate the commitments of all States to refrain from interfering in domestic affairs of States and to resolve their disputes through peaceful means.

2- Strongly rejects any arbitrary, extra-territorial and unilateral measures whether political or legal applied by one country against another one.

3- Urges all States to consider the so-called D'Amato law which is against the international law and norms, as null and void.

4- Emphasizes its solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Great Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and sympathizes with their positions against such acts.

5- Calls on the Secretary General of the OIC to review the adverse impacts of the law and submit a report to the 25th Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 16/24-P
ON THE
SITUATION IN CYPRUS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Reaffirming the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus who constitutes an integral part of the Islamic world;

Reiterating its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides;

Welcoming, in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues;

Noting that there had been sufficient progress for the United Nations to implement the package of confidence building measures on the basis outlined in the UN Secretary General's complementary report of 28 June 1994 concerning his mission of good offices;

Considering that the excessive rearmament of the Greek Cypriot side deepens further the existing mistrust between the two sides and constitutes a threat to peace and stability in the island;

Recalling that in the more than 30 years since the establishment of UNFICYP, it has not been possible to achieve a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus problem;

Mindful of the necessity to respect the full equality of the two sides in Cyprus in order to facilitate the efforts towards an overall settlement;

Recalling its resolution adopted at the 20th Session as well as the resolution adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference which decided the enhancement of the participation of the Turkish Muslim community of Cyprus in the OIC;

Noting in this regard its resolution adopted at the 22nd Session as well as the resolution No.14/7-P (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

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Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary General contained in document No. ICFM/23-96/PIL/D.9;

Appreciating the economic study on the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus undertaken by the Islamic Development Bank;

Having considered in this context the request of the Turkish Cypriot side for full membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Expressing its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement;

1. Reaffirms the total equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other.

2. Urges the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports.

3. Decides to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.

4. Requests the Secretary General to carry out the necessary contacts with the Islamic Development Bank with a view to seeking the ways and means of the latter's assistance for the development projects of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

5. Considers that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question.

6. Calls on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement for implementing the confidence building measures and to resume direct talks without any precondition.

7. Decides to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

8. Requests the Secretary General to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this Resolution and to make further recommendations as appropriate.

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9. Requests further the Secretary General to monitor closely developments in Cyprus and to present a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 17/24-P
ON
THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences on the Comorian Island of Mayotte as well as the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions affirming the territorial unity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros which is composed of four Islands: Grande-Comore, Mayotte, Moheli and Anjouan;

Bearing in mind the pledges made by France on the eve of the referendum for self-determination of 22 December 1974 held in the Comoros, to respect the territorial integrity of the Archipelago on its accession to independence;

Convinced that a just and lasting solution to the question of Mayotte is to be found in respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago;

Also bearing in mind the wish expressed by the Government of France to seek actively a just solution to the problem;

Taking note of the repeated wish of the Government of the Comoros to initiate as soon as possible a frank and serious dialogue with the French Government and the representatives of the inhabitants of Mayotte with a view to accelerating the return of the Comorian Island of Mayotte to the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros;

Considering that the separation of the Island of Mayotte from the other Comorian Islands constitutes a grave violation of the territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, and is a serious impediment to the harmonious economic development of that country;

Bearing in mind also the decisions of the Organization of African Unity, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the United Nation's General Assembly on this question;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the subject, (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.10);

1. Reaffirms the unity and territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte.

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2. Expresses its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supports the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity.

3. Urges the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Comoros;

4. Calls upon the Member States to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

5. Rejects any idea of dividing the island into departments, such idea being contrary to all international resolutions and to the solution of the problem by means of negotiations in conformity with the will of the Presidents of France and Comoros.

6. Invites the Secretary General to continue his contacts with the French authorities in order to convey to them the deep concern of the OIC over this problem, to follow the developments in this regard in coordination with the Secretaries General of the UN and the OAU and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.18/24-P
ON
SITUATION IN KOSOVA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference which emphasize the commitment of the Islamic Ummah to the consolidation of international peace and security;

Bearing in mind the obligation of all States to act in conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter;

Noting the UN General Assembly resolutions 49/201 of 23 December 1994 and 50/190 of December 1995;

Expressing serious concern over the alarming increase in human rights violation in Kosova by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro): continuing and systematic harassment, persecution, intimidation of Albanian citizens, imprisonment of members of political parties, human rights workers, journalists, brutalities, arbitrary charges, seizures, arrests, forced eviction,torture, ill-treatment of detainees, even killings, discrimination in the administration of justice, arbitrary dismissal of civil servants, elimination of Albanian language from educational system, closing of schools and universities, as well as other cultural and scientific institutions and, as a result, forcing Albanians to involuntary emigrate, without any guarantees to return, thus pursuing ethnic cleansing of Kosova;

Expressing further concern that these massive and systematic violations of all human and political rights pose a threat to the peace and security in the region.

Noting that the re-establishment of the international presence in Kosova to monitor and investigate the situation is fundamental in preventing the situation in Kosova from deteriorating into a violent conflict;

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1. Condemns strongly the large-scale repression, measures of discrimination and the violations of human rights against defenseless Albanian population committed by authorities of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), aimed at forcing Albanians to leave their land.

2. Calls on the international community to take all necessary measures to bring to an immediate end all human rights violations against Albanians in Kosova, and revoke all discriminatory legislation, in particular that which has entered into force since 1989.

3. Calls for the establishment of genuine democratic institutions in Kosova, including the parliament, government and judiciary as the best means of protecting the human, political, national rights of the Albanian population and preventing the escalation of conflict; reopen all the educational, cultural and scientific institutions of the Albanians; release all political prisoners in Kosova; commence the internationally brokered dialogue with the representatives of Albanians in Kosova.

4. Requests the Secretary General to hold consultations with the relevant international organisations to address the crisis in Kosova.

5. Recommends that all Member States take action at the UN General Assembly and at UN Commission on Human Rights and other international fora to promote the human rights of the population of Kosova.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to present a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.19/24-P
ON
DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolutions No.36/19-P, 19/20-P, 16/21-P, 17/22-P and 16/23-P adopted by the Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and Resolution No.17/7-P(IS) of the- Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the developments taking place in the world especially in Eastern and Central Europe and their effects on the Islamic World as well as the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit;on Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the developments taking place in the world especially in Eastern and Central Europe and their effects on the Islamic world as well as the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General and of the Reflection Committee on this subject (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.11);

Recognizing that the current international situation is characterized by instability and uncertainty especially for the developing countries;

Being Aware that the present situation requires the Islamic States to contribute effectively towards the establishment of a New World Order based on justice and equality for all, which should be an objective of Joint Islamic Action within the framework of the OIC;

Having taken cognizance of the current developments in the world in general and in Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia in particular in the political, economic and social fields, and the repercussions thereof on the Muslim Ummah;

Deeply concerned over the situation in the Balkans arising from Serbian aggressive and expansionist policies which threaten the peace and security of the region as a whole;

Taking note of the fact that developments in Eastern and Central Europe in the political, economic and social fields and the growing interdependence between East and West have led to increase in the flow of financial resources to East European countries and its implications for the Islamic world;

Expressing concern over the immigration of and the settlement of European and other nationals of the Jewish faith in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories.

1. Reaffirms the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interests.

2. Expresses the hope that strengthening of economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third world countries.

3. Also Expresses the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language, religion and culture.

4. Warns against the perilous consequences of the transfer and settlement of European and other nationals of Jewish faith in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, and its negative impact on the peace process, all of which increase tension in the Middle East region and threaten international peace and security.

5. Requests the OIC Secretary General to closely monitor the political and economic situation in the Eastern and Central European countries with special reference to the condition of Muslims and Muslim communities in these countries and present regular reports to the OIC Meetings. The effect of the situation on Muslim countries may also be indicated, alongwith recommendations and proposed action by Member States.

6. Calls on the Secretary General to visit the region from time to time to contact the governments and members of the Muslim communities to ascertain their condition and enlighten them about the OIC.

7. Also requests that the IDB may, in association with international/regional financial institutions, draw up a study of the economic circumstances of the region, western concerns and interests, and their implications for the Muslim countries. They may make recommendations on possibilities of interaction of their economies with the Member States.

8. Recommends that the OIC Member States, belonging to the two regions, may be included in the meetings of /...

the Reflection Committee so as to obtain meaningful inputs in the proceeding of the Meeting.

9. Approves the recommendations contained in the Report of the Meeting of the Reflection Committee entrusted with the subject of the new developments in the international situation specially in Central and Eastern Europe and other regions (RC/4-96/Rep.1) and calls upon the Member States to cooperate and contribute by implementing these proposals and recommendations.

10. Invites the Reflection Committee to continue to hold regular experts meetings to follow up the developments in the international situation especially in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia and requests the Reflection Committee to hold annual Ministerial Meetings, if possible, during the Coordination Meeting in New York.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of the resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 20/24-P
ON THE
SECURITY AND SOLIDARITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolve of Member States expressed in accordance with the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures security, freedom and justice for their people and all peoples throughout the world;

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Mindful of the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, especially the objectives of promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening their capacity to safeguard their security, sovereignty, independence and national rights;

Stressing the right of every Member State to maintain its national security, sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Recalling Resolutions 17/23-P, 18/23-P and 19/23-P adopted by the 23rd Session of the ICFM and all Islamic resolutions in this regard;

Recalling also resolution 44/51 of the UN General Assembly entitled "Protection and Security of Small States" adopted by the 44th Session of the UN General Assembly in 1989;

Reaffirming the importance of the establishment of peace and security in the Islamic world and the consolidation of the climate of mutual confidence and solidarity between the Islamic countries as well as their cooperation in all fields;

Reaffirming the right of any Member State to preserve its national security and territorial integrity;

Bearing in mind the recommendations and proposals of the inter-governmental experts' group set up to study this matter;

Taking into account the rapid and profound changes taking place in the system of international relations and its impact on different regions and states throughout the world and particularly across the Islamic world;

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Considering the continued occupation of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif and of the other Arab territories and the continued denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as constituting a serious threat to the security of Islamic States and world peace;

Expressing its deep concern at the threats to the security of Member States and proliferation of crises and conflicts affecting Islamic countries and peoples as well as at the threats and challenges to the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah in all spheres of life and reaffirming the necessity to safeguard the Islamic values and identity;

Recalling the provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit which affirms the resolve of Member States to contribute actively towards the establishment of a New International Order based on peace and progress and respect for international legality and capable of guaranteeing justice and equality for all;

Determined to vigorously oppose foreign domination, aggression, alien occupation, hegemonism and spheres of influence, which result in the limitation of the freedom of member States to determine their own political systems and pursue economic, social and cultural development without any coercion, intimidation and pressure from outside;

Emphasizing the absolute right of each Member State to preserve its natural resources and to use them for the benefit, welfare and progress of their people;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General to the Conference on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States (ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.12);

Also taking note of the report submitted by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States which was constituted by the Secretary General in implementation of Resolution 18/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Further taking note of the report submitted by the Second Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group of Experts held in Jeddah on 23 October 1996 pursuant to Resolution no.17/2-P;

1. Reiterates that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries.

2. Reaffirms further the determination of Member States to encourage the initiatives aimed at building confidence and security at the appropriate time at the bilateral or sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration.

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3. Recognizes that small states are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs.

4. Firmly resolves to strengthen the security of Member States, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration.

5. Reaffirms the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples over their natural resources and economic activities.

6. Expresses the determination of the Member States to preserve and promote Islamic values in all spheres of life especially those of solidarity and mutual respect;

7. Reaffirms the need for respect of the principles of international law concerning the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States as essential prerequisites for the security of Islamic States.

8. Approves the report of the Second Inter-governmental Expert Group Meeting entrusted to reflect on the security and solidarity of Member States as well as the proposals and recommendations contained therein. It recommends to Member States to implement them and requests the Group to continue to follow up developments relating to the question of security and solidarity of Member States and to report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

9. Requests the Secretary General also to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report on the subject to the Twenty-fith Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 21/24-P
ON THE
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND STEPS TAKEN FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SECURITY OF ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Guided by the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which call for the consolidation of international peace and security on the basis of justice, and reaffirming its commitment to the purposes of the United Nations Charter in safeguarding international peace and security;

Considering that the United Nations, pursuant to the provisions of its Charter, has a major role and responsibility in the field of disarmament and promotion of international security, as well as of protection of future generations from the calamities of war;

Noting that the current international situation requires that the principles of disarmament as contained in the United Nations Charter become a fundamental element in any collective effort designed to bring about a truly secure world and protect mankind from the threat of weapons of mass-destruction, particularly nuclear weapons;

Recalling in this regard the adoption by the General Assembly on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, and emphasizing the increasing importance of this relationship in the context of the current developments in international relations;

Convinced of the need to promote international peace and security founded on the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter rejecting the threat or use of force and calling for respect of the territorial integrity and national independence of States, non-interference in their internal affairs, and the right of peoples living under the yoke of foreign domination and colonialism to self-determination, and based also on the elimination of occupation, aggression, annexation, and all forms of racial discrimination;

Recognizing the importance of equitable and balanced disarmament measures, which guarantee the right of every State to balanced security;

Acknowledging that the independence, territorial integrity, regional security and sovereignty of the /...

non-nuclear-weapon States should be ensured through credible guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Deeply concerned at the threats posed to peace and security in the Middle East in view of the possession, by Israel, of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and related delivery systems, and at their continued aggressive and expansionist policies against the peoples of the Middle East;

Recalling the resolution of the International Atomic Energy Agency No.601 of 25 September 1992 regarding the application of the Agency's Safeguards System in the Middle East;

Welcoming the initiatives of Member States relating to the establishment of a Zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, notably nuclear weapons;

Recognizing that the establishment of mass-destruction-weapon-free Zones constitutes an important disarmament measure, which helps in easing tension and achieving security and stability in these Zones, particularly in the Middle East region;

Recalling the Final Communiques and resolutions on disarmament adopted by the Islamic Conferences, in particular Resolution 30/23-P issued by the 23rd Session of the ICFM;

Noting the adoption of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by the U.N. General Assembly on 10 September, 1996;

Also recalling all resolutions and recommendations issued in this respect by other international and regional organizations and particularly by the Non-Aligned Movement;

Noting the proposal of Pakistan for the holding of multilateral talks on interlinked issues of peace and security in South Asia;

And taking note of the Secretary General's report on the disarmament issues submitted to the Conference (Doc. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.13);

1. Calls for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. Emphasizes the need to conduct negotiations as early as possible within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session on the full range of disarmament issues;

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3. Deems it necessary that all States be afforded an opportunity to participate on an equal footing in the work of the Conference on Disarmament so as to ensure universal representation.

4. Considers that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

5. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring the adherence of all States to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and requests the States with nuclear weapons to implement their obligations to which they have committed themselves in the resolutions adopted by the Conference on the Review and Extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty held in New York during the months of April and May 1995.

6. Calls on all nuclear weapons states to commit themselves to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons arsenals within a universally acceptable time-frame.

7. Requests the Member States to intensify their efforts at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva for the formation of an Ad-hoc committee for drawing up a time-table for the phasing out of nuclear weapons with a view to their total elimination.

8. Welcomes the initiatives of some Member States for the establishment of a Zone free from all weapons of mass destruction notably nuclear weapons in the Middle East, within the framework of the United Nations, and calls for an early establishment of such a Zone. In this context, it notes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by the Working Group of the League of Arab States concerning the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East.

9. Welcomes the Convention on the establishment of a nuclear weapon free zone in Africa which was signed in Cairo on 11 April, 1996.

10. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its efforts to come to an early agreement on concluding an international legally binding convention providing non-nuclear-weapon States with credible guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and calls upon the Member States to coordinate their efforts at the Conference on this issue.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.22/24-P ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONES IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH ASIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures which can most effectively guarantee the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as contribute to the achievement of general and complete disarmament;

Convinced that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in various regions will serve to protect the States of such regions against the threat or use of Nuclear Weapons;

Recalling that the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly recommended the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia;

Also recalling all the resolutions adopted by various Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, including Resolution 21/23-P issued by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia;

Recalling as well, all relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its last Session on this subject;

Bearing in mind all the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Organization of African Unity in this respect, and recalling in particular the Declaration on Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its First Ordinary Session held in Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964 on the necessity for establishing a nuclear weapon free zone in Africa;

Noting the statements made at the highest level by Governments of South Asian States pledging themselves not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social development of their peoples.

Welcoming the proposal for the conclusion of a bilateral or regional nuclear test ban agreement in South Asia as well as the proposal to convene under the UN /...

auspices of a Conference on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia and welcoming also the proposal to hold five nation consultations with a view to ensuring nuclear non-proliferation in the region of South Asia;

1. Notes the Report of the Secretary General on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia (Document ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.13).

2. Welcomes the convention on the establishment of a nuclear weapon free zone in Africa which was signed in Cairo on 11 April, 1996.

3. Also welcomes the signing of a convention in Bangkok in December 1995 by the Heads of State and Government of the ten South East Asian countries for the establishment of a South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone.

4. Calls upon all States, particularly the States of the regions concerned, which have not yet done, to positively respond to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in the Middle East and South Asia.

5. Reaffirms the determination of Member States to take measures to prevent nuclear proliferation on a non-discriminatory and universal basis.

6. Urges all States especially nuclear weapon States to exert pressure on Israel to become party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and calls on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to obtain Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and ammunition to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, and primarily nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

7. Welcomes the various proposals made by Pakistan to keep the South Asian region free of nuclear weapons including the proposed five-nation consultations to ensure nuclear non-proliferation in the region.

8. Requests all member States to keep up and further coordinate their cooperation at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the /...

establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in the Middle East and South Asia.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this regard and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 23/24-P
ON
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Deeply concerned over the existence of significant nuclear arsenals in the world which increase the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Taking into consideration that it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear weapon states against the threat or use of nuclear weapons, whatever their origin;

Recognizing that effective measures to protect non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons may positively contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

Firmly believes that the most effective guarantee for non-Nuclear States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

Recalling the commitment made by nuclear weapons states to provide security assurances to non-nuclear weapons states in accordance with their obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and other instruments;

Noting that these measures have failed to provide credible assurances to non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

Recalling all the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, including Resolution 22/23-P of the 23rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly as well as those issued by the Non-Aligned Movement on the need for assurances by nuclear powers to non-nuclear weapon states to the effect that the former shall not resort to the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against them;

Further recalling that the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly had called upon nuclear weapon states to conclude urgently arrangements to assure non-nuclear states against the threat or use of nuclear weapons;

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Recalling further the resolution of the UN General Assembly calling for the Conference on Disarmament to actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an International Convention;

Noting the adoption of Security Council Resolution No. 684 which unanimously approved on 11 April, 1995 as well as the Declaration issued by the nuclear weapon States on the positive and negative security guarantees for the non-nuclear weapon States;

Noting also the adoption of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on 10 September,1996;

Expressing deep concern over the threat of use of nuclear weapons in general and against the OIC Member States;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.13);

Noting the non-existence of opposition, in principle, within the Conference of Disarmament to the early conclusion and on the basis of just criteria, of an international convention to protect non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

1. Calls upon all States, including those Members of the Conference on Disarmament, particularly the nuclear weapon States, to work urgently towards a binding agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context.

2. Recommends that the Islamic States make efforts at all international fora with a view to promoting the above-mentioned objectives aimed at strengthening the security of non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament for the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory and universally applicable convention banning the production and stockpiling of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosives.

4. Also urges the Conference on Disarmament to give priority attention to all other issues on its agenda, particularly to the early commencement of negotiations on nuclear disarmament.

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5. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this respect and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 24/24-P
ON THE
REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits;

Affirming the commitment of all Member States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations;

Noting that the unbridled regional arms race and arms build up impedes efforts for confidence building;

Noting that the essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the Tenth Special Session of the UN General Assembly vide its Resolution No. S-10/2;

Recalling Resolution 47/52 J (1992) adopted by the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly;

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament which appeared in recent years;

Recognizing the importance of confidence building measures for regional and international peace and security;

Recalling resolutions No.23/21-P, 24/22-P and 23/23-P adopted by the Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as Resolution 24/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the subject;

Convinced that endeavours by the Member States to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of smaller States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.13);

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1. Stresses that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues.

2. Affirms that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued to promote regional and international peace and security.

3. Encourages the conclusion of equitable and non-discriminatory agreements for global nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and confidence-building at regional and sub-regional levels.

4. Welcomes the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and sub-regional levels.

5. Supports and encourages efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and sub-regional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and non-proliferation measures at regional and sub-regional levels, taking into account the relevant characteristics of each region.

6. Considers that regional agreements on ceilings for arms production and purchases and military expenditure can contribute to fostering confidence and making resources available for development, taking into consideration the circumstances of each region.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this respect and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 25/24-P
ON THE
REGIONAL MILITARY BALANCE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Reiterates the Member States' resolve as expressed in the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Conference to unite their efforts in order to secure universal peace which ensures freedom, justice and security for their people and all peoples throughout the world;

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;

Bearing in mind the need for redressing the asymmetries in the levels of security arising from military imbalances at regional and sub-regional levels;

Recalling Resolutions 24/21-P, 25/22-P and 24/23-P issued by the Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and Resolution No. 25/7-P(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit on this subject;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.13);

1. Recognizes the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels.

2. Calls upon the international community and states concerned to adopt measures which would ease global and regional tensions and result in a just and lasting resolution of outstanding conflicts and disputes thus facilitating meaningful disarmament and arms control measures.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the developments of this subject and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 26/24-P
ON
THE PROBLEM OF DUMPING OF DANGEROUS NUCLEAR AND TOXIC WASTES IN THE ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering the serious problems arising from the dumping of dangerous toxic wastes in certain Islamic Countries by some industrialized countries;

Deeply concerned at the fact that the dumping of radioactive and toxic waste endangers human life, marine fauna and the ecosystem in general;

Bearing in mind the Code of Practice in the International Transboundary Movement of Radio Active Waste established by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the importance of updating the contents of this Code to bring them in line with the related developments since the adoption of this Code;

Also bearing in mind the conclusion, by African States, of the Bamako Convention on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and control of their transboundary movements within Africa;

Deploring the instances of dumping of toxic wastes in Somalia's territorial waters;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.29);

1. Affirms that the dumping or elimination of toxic wastes of foreign origin in the territories and waters of Member States, and the risks that it entails for human life are a heinous crime against the people of Member States and the entire humanity.

2. Condemns all governmental and non-governmental entities which engage in this shameful practice of dumping toxic waste in the territories and waters of peace-loving people thus seriously endangering life and environment on our planet.

3. Invites all the Member States to contine their intensive campaign to enlighten their respective populations about the devastating effects of toxic waste on human life, fauna and flora.

4. Calls upon all States which produce dangerous and toxic waste to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling this waste in their own countries.

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5. Urges all the Member States to ban all the illegal trans-border movements of dangerous and toxic waste, transported without the necessary safeguards and the prior consent of the importing country.

6. Requests the Member States to intensify their efforts within the framework of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency to conclude a legally binding instrument on the absolute and comprehensive prohibition of any dumping of radioactive or nuclear wastes and to this end calls on all States and multi-national corporations and others to abide by the provisions of the Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982.

7. Requests the Member States to intensify their efforts in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in order to review the Code of Conduct relating to the movement of nuclear wastes through international frontiers which has been adopted by the IAEA and to update the text of this Code in conformity with the changes which have taken place since the entry into effect of this Code.

8. Calls on all States to abide by the maritime agreements prohibiting the dumping of toxics and nuclear wastes in the territorial waters of the littoral Member States.

9. Requests the Secretary General to undertake the necessary measures with a view to convening a meeting of littoral Member States to consider the problem of toxic wastes emanating from ships that pass through the territorial waters of these States and the bordering maritime zones.

10. Requests the Secretary General to follow the developments on this subject and to submit a report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 27/24-P
ON
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND MINE-CLEARING OPERATIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Minister (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December 1996),

Gravely concerned about the continued suffering and casualties caused to non-combatants as a result of the proliferation, as well as the indiscriminate and irresponsible use, of anti-personnel mines;

Considering that the OIC Member States, by participating in international fora dealing with the question of the eventual elimination of anti-personnel mines shall be contributing to international peace and security and acting in accordance with the provision of the Charter of the OIC.

Taking note of the commitment of several international humanitarian organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross for the elimination of anti-personnel mines;

Taking note also of the decisions taken at the Review Conference of the States' Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, particularly with respect to the Convention's amended Protocol II;

Taking note further of the report of Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.25);

1. Expresses its deep concerns over the consequences of the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian populations and their economic development.
2. Reaffirms that the security concern of member states should be taken into account in considering the question of eventual elimination of anti-personnel mines.
3. Urges OIC member states, as well as other members of international community to intensify and

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pursue their support for mine clearing operations and to strengthen international cooperation in this field.

4. Request OIC member states to take part in the effort aimed at adopting effective and comprehensive measures to put an end to the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines.

5. Urges the International Community, particularly the developed countries to provide substantial assistance for the removal of anti-personnel mines and to ensure access by all states, especially mine stricken state, to advanced material, equipment and technology as well as to ensure the removal of all existing obstacles in this regard.

6. Requests the OIC Secretary General to follow up the matter and to report thereon to the 25th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 28/24-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION AMONG ISLAMIC STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

In application of the teachings and noble principles of the glorious Islamic religion which urge the consolidation of solidarity and fraternity among the members of the unified Islamic Ummah and enjoins opposition to sedition;

Faithful to the objectives and principles enunciated in the OIC Charter notably provisions of Article II relating to the strengthening of solidarity and non interference in the internal affairs of Member States;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.14);

Recalling the resolutions of the Third Islamic Summit Conference which stressed the need to strengthen solidarity among Member States on the basis of mutual respect and commitment to non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, and support for the causes of freedom, justice and peace;

Recalling also Resolution 16/6-P(IS) and the provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference on the subject;

Taking note of the recommendations and proposals of the Reflection Committee, the Group of Eminent Personalities and the Intergovernmental Experts Group as well as the recommendations of the Expert Group on Correcting the Image of Islam in the Outside World, in this respect;

Recalling also all Islamic resolutions adopted in this respect, including Res. 25/23-P of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

1. Calls upon Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other Member States.

2. Decides that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State, and reaffirms the /...

necessity of consolidating coordination among Member States so as to control the phenomenon of terrorism in all its manifestations and forms including intellectual terrorism and extremism.

3. Stresses the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among Member States at all levels, and to further their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

4. Invites the Secretary General and the Reflection Committee to study this topic and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.29/24-P
ON
ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE SAHEL

The Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Noting with satisfaction that the problems of drought and famine in the States of the African Sahel have continued to receive the close attention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Also noting with satisfaction that the Sixth Islamic Summit held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, in December 1991, urged Member States and OIC institutions to strengthen their cooperation with CILSS and welcomed the progress made by CILSS in preparing a coherent plan aimed at protecting the Sahelian peoples and their economic potentialities against the effects of drought and desertification which are hampering the development process of Sahelian countries;

Having taken cognizance of resolution 27/7-P(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on Islamic Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel;

Taking into account the need for the urgent implementation of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel as soon as possible;

Taking note of the Secretary General's report which reviewed, inter alia, the steps already taken in the elaboration and approval of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme (ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.16);

1- Expresses its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the elaboration and finalization of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel.

2- Reaffirms the necessity to devote greater attention to the speedy implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations.

3- Appeals urgently to Member States to contribute generously and substantially to the funding of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme in favour of the Sahel Populations so as to crystallize the OIC Member States' solidarity with these populations, alleviate their sufferings and ensure sustained development in the Sahel region.

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4- Requests the Secretary General to follow developments in this regard and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 30/24-P
ON THE
CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 15/5-P (IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference and the relevant provisions of the Dakar Declaration adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Emphasizing that the African development crisis is of deep concern to the entire Islamic Ummah;

Noting with appreciation the positive response of the international community, particularly the Islamic countries, to the economic difficulties being faced by the continent of Africa;

Realizing that the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 adopted by the Special Session of the General Assembly in May 1986 did not yield the required results;

Deeply concerned that despite the reform and restructuring being undertaken by the African countries, their economic development continues to be impeded, inter-alia, by an unfavourable economic environment, inadequate flow of resources and a heavy debt burden;

Taking into consideration the important results of the Uruguay Round and its possible consequences on the critical economic situation in Africa;

Recalling that the U.N. General Assembly adopted at its 46th Session the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the Nineties;

Taking note of the decisions taken by the World Food Summit held in Rome on 11-17 November, 1996;

Recalling also with appreciation the report presented by the UN Secretary General on the gravity of the economic situation in Africa and the positive reactions by the international economic bodies;

Taking note of the Secretary General's report on this subject (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.17);

1. Welcomes the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Abuja Treaty concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa.

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2. Stresses the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and calls upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

3. Expresses appreciation for the Member States which have provided assistance to Africa through bilateral or multilateral channels.

4. Calls upon the international community, particularly the developed countries and the concerned international financial agencies, to make a substantial contribution to the objectives of African Economic Recovery and Development, inter-alia, by an increase in financial flows, especially concessional flows, to Africa, particularly to sub-Saharan countries, through measures for an increase in Africa's export earnings and a reduction in the adverse impact on African economies of fluctuations in those earnings and through measures to limit and reduce the burden that external debt imposes on African recovery, reform and development.

5. Calls upon Member States to increase their assistance to the countries of Africa in order to enable them to initiate and implement the necessary structural changes required to hasten their economic development.

6. Welcomes the contribution of Member States to the World Food Summit in Rome and calls for the implementation of its resolutions.

7. Invites the international community to strengthen its support of Africa's efforts to diversify its commodity sector as well as for market promotion activities and export.

8. Recommends that Member States and the international community especially those countries which have an agricultural surplus to give special attention to providing continued assistance in the sector of agriculture in order to enable the countries of Africa to achieve self-sufficiency as soon as possible.

9. Urges the developed countries and international financial institutions to give special attention to alleviating the extreme debt burden of the African States.

10. Recommends to Member States to closely consult and coordinate on the follow-up to the World Trade Organization Conference held in Singapore on 9-13 December, 1996 taking into consideration the critical economic situation in Africa.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 31/24-P
ON THE
REPARATIONS FOR COLONIALISM AND THE AFTER EFFECTS OF WAR

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolutions No.29/14-P, No. 38/19-P, No. 28/20-P, No.30/21-P, 29/22-P and 28/23-P adopted by the 14th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as Resolution No.17/6-P(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution 29/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on reparations for damages caused by colonialism and by Wars" and particularly the sequels of war, and mines;

Recalling also Resolution No.32 of the 5th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States, held in Colombo from 16 to 19 August, 1976 concerning the after effects of wars;

Also referring to the content of the Declaration of the 9th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States, held in Belgrade, from 4 to 7 September, 1989 on reparations for the period of colonialism;

Also recalling the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other relevant UN organs on the remnants of war, including mines;

Further recalling the historical precedents on reparations for the damages caused by occupation and war and their sequels, particularly those of two world wars;

Recognizing that the existence of physical remnants of the war, including mines, in the territories of developing countries seriously impedes the developmental efforts of these countries and causes a loss of life and property;

Taking into consideration the decisions of the special meeting on mines held under the auspices of the U.N. in Geneva in August 1995;

Convinced that the responsibility for removing the remnants of wars should fall on the countries that had laid them;

Recognizing that poverty and the obstacles to economic and social development in developing countries are due primarily to the depletion of those countries' economic and human resources by the States which had colonized them;

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Also convinced that the effective solution to the problems caused to the developing countries by colonialism, occupation or settlement lies in the commitment of former colonial powers to shoulder the responsibility of compensating for the losses suffered by those countries;

Further convinced that reparations for colonialism are the least that former colonial powers can do to rehabilitate the people of the countries they had colonized;

Further convinced that the peoples of the world have a firm desire to end all forms of colonialism;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.17);

1. Reaffirms its condemnation of colonialism in all its forms as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law.

2. Recognizes that the effects of colonialism have hampered economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries and are still impeding these countries' development and progress.

3. Reaffirms the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to take all necessary measures to obtain quick and fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism or foreign invasion.

4. Affirms the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion and colonization of the Libyan territories and calls on Member States which have caused these dangers to take effective measures to meet the claims of the Great Jamahiriya.

5. Demands all past and present colonialist powers to shoulder their responsibilities and make reparations for all the economic, social and cultural consequences of their occupation of developing countries.

6. Requests the Member States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with a view to urging the States involved in the Second World War to extend technical and financial assistance as well as the necessary information and requisite maps so as to assist in immediately removing mines left behind by their forces in some areas of Member

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States, which are still causing extensive damage and impeding the developmental efforts in these areas, and invites the concerned Member States to coordinate among themselves so as to achieve this objective.

7. Affirms the right of all Member States, without exception, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to recover their cultural property which was looted during the period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents, and invites Member States to coordinate among themselves so as to achieve this aim in collaboration with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

8. Urges the international community to take effective measures to prevent the recurrence of colonialism and liquidate its after-effects.

9. Decides to keep this issue under consideration and requests the Secretary General to establish contacts with the concerned international bodies and parties and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 32/24-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF SUDAN TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL UNITY, PEACE, AND DEVELOPMENT, AND TO SAFEGUARD ITS IDENTITY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ThE FACE OF CURRENT CHALLENGES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling all the relevant Islamic resolutions including Res. 29/23-P adopted by the 23rd Session of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on supporting the efforts of Sudan to achieve national unity, peace and development, and to safeguard its identity and cultural heritage;

Reaffirming its commitment to the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter on promoting Islamic solidarity among Member States and enhancing their ability to protect their unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, national rights and spiritual heritage;

Observing that Sudan is facing attacks and designs from numerous hostile foreign quarters aimed at destabilizing Sudan, undermining its unity, and obliterating its cultural identity;

Drawing attention to the public opinion campaigns launched by hostile western circles with the aim of paving the way for intervention in Sudan, through establishment of the so-called security zones, under the guise of humanitarian action;

Expressing deep concern over foreign designs aimed at instigating separatist rebels for demanding self-determination as a prelude to secession of Southern Sudan;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.18);

1. Reaffirms its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs, and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability.

2. Commends Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem of Southern Sudan through negotiations and dialogue between various Sudanese parties for achieving its stability and national development.

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3. _Expresses_ its deep appreciation to the Member States which support the efforts of Sudan to safeguard its unity and its national security and cultural heritage.

4. _Appeals_ to Member States to continue to support Sudan's efforts to safeguard its unity, territorial integrity and identity, in conformity with the principles embodied in the Charter and resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

5. _Requests_ the Secretary General to follow up this resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 33/24-P
ON
SUPPORT FOR NIGER'S EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE ITS NATIONAL UNITY AND ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN PASTORAL AREA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the goals and principles of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference aiming in particular at consolidating Islamic solidarity among Member States and strengthening cooperation between them in the economic, social, cultural and scientific fields as well as in other vital fields;

Taking into consideration the Peace Agreement concluded in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on 9 October 1994 and signed on 24 April 1995 in Niamey between the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Organization of Armed Resistance;

Convinced of the necessity of providing Niger with the necessary assistance for its economic and social development, the sole guarantee of stability in the Northern Pastoral Area;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.19);

1. Expresses satisfaction at the signing of the Peace Agreement.

2. Commends the efforts exerted by mediating countries for their important contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement.

3. Requests Member States, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its developmental objectives within the framework of the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement.

4. Invites the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 34/24-P
ON THE REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN REGION OF MALI

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Based on resolution No. 19/6-P (IS) adopted by the Sixth Summit entitled "Islamic solidarity with Mali for restoration of peace and development of its Northern Regions" adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 9-11 December, 1991;

Recalling resolution No.29/21-P adopted by the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi from 25 to 29 April 1993 aimed at achieving the same objective;

Having examined the conclusions of the report of the Mission of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the implementation of the emergency programme for the rehabilitation of the regions of Timbuctu, Gao and Kidal;

Recalling, on the other hand, resolution No. 23/22-P adopted by the Twenty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers requesting Member States and Financial Institutions of the Organization to get more involved in the financing of the Programme of Projects for the strengthening of peace in the Northern region of Mali;

Having taken good note of the positive conclusions arrived at by the Government of Mali and the development partners at their Timbuctu meeting;

Deeply concerned over the lack of financing for this programme;

Convinced that the ceremony of the "Torch of Peace", the integration of the former combatants and the creation of a Ministry responsible for the arid and semi-arid zones, reflects the willingness of all the parties to abide by the commitments contained in the National Accord.

Convinced also that the return of peace, rehabilitation of the displaced people and their socio-economic development cannot be achieved without the support and assistance of friendly countries and institutions;

Recalling the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC;

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Mindful of Islamic solidarity;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.20);

1- Requests member states and the Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency programmes and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali.

2- Recommends to the member states and the Islamic financial institutions to actively support the implementation of the medium and long term development strategy and of the emergency programme in the regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctu.

3- Thanks the Muslim World League (MWL), the International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO), and the ISF for their contribution to the efforts of the Government of Mali for the rehabilitation and development of the Northern Regions.

4- Requests the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 35/24-P
ON THE
USE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolution 30/7-P (IS), of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference ;

Bearing in mind the historic contribution of the Islamic civilization in building, enriching and developing human civilization at large;

Conscious of the need for continued active participation in building human civilization and for interacting with it in such a way as to achieve an adequate standard of living, on the basis of mutual understanding among peoples and nations, away from acts of aggression and violations of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international norms;

Proceeding from the inalienable right of peoples to development;

Believing that economic, social and cultural progress is contingent upon the peaceful uses of science and technology on the broadest scale possible, in accordance with the requirements of development;

Conscious that science and technology are the outcome of an integrated human endeavour and that their peaceful applications should be marshalled for the service of the whole of mankind;

Taking note of the recommendations of COMSTECH in its latest session in Islamabad, Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No. ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.21);

1. Affirms the inalienable right of the Islamic States to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields.

2. Rejects all policies and measures aimed at obstructing the achievement of technological progress for peaceful purposes in OIC Member States, as well as policies and measures which are inconsistent with the legitimate right of all States and peoples to attain an appropriate, modern and civilized standard of living, in addition to harming international peace and security and are at variance with the aims and objectives of the UN Charter.

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3. Calls upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering the transfer of technology to Islamic States in particular.

4. Calls upon Member States to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

5. Recommends that Member States consult each other on the appropriate measures to be adopted with regard to any State or group of States imposing restrictions on the transfer of technology and its equipment to the developing countries through a meeting to be convened in this regard by the Secretary General.

6. Requests the Secretary General to monitor the implementation of the present resolution and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 36/24-P
CN
THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolution 32/7-P (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the problem of Refugees;

Deeply concerned over the plight of refugees in many parts of the world, most of whom are members of the Islamic community;

Reaffirming the solidarity of Member States with the countries hosting the refugees, and thus assuming immense political, economic and social burdens, in a spirit of Islamic brotherhood and in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Convinced that solidarity is dictated by the principles of brotherhood and the defence of human rights and human dignity, which are deep-rooted in the Islamic heritage and traditions;

Recalling the mandate of the UNHCR in providing protection and adequate care and maintenance to refugees;

Recalling also the responsibility of all states to extend their assistance to Member States hosting refugees to reduce the heavy burden they are shouldering;

Noting with deep concern the declining levels of international assistance extended to the countries hosting refugees to help them to continue providing assistance to refugees;

Fully convinced that the lasting solution of the refugee problem consists in providing favourable conditions for their return to their homelands in safety and dignity;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/24-96/PIL/D.23);

1. Notes with satisfaction the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General to further enhance the capacity of the OIC to provide humanitarian assistance to the refugees in cooperation with the UNHCR.

2. Expresses its appreciation to Member States, donor countries, the UNHCR, the U.N. specialized agencies, and other humanitarian institutions for the valuable assistance they extend to refugees in Islamic countries.

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3. Expresses also its deep appreciation to countries hosting refugees for their generous assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as presence of large number of displaced persons.

4. Reaffirms its concern for the security, stability and infrastructure of those Muslim countries whose economic and social development is seriously affected by the presence of refugees.

5. Calls on Member States, to coordinate their action at international level with a view to determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other countries and strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their homes whenever circumstances permit.

6. Requests the Secretary General to expedite the preparation of a survey regarding the numbers and the situation of the refugees in the Islamic World in coordination with the UNHCR. This survey should be presented to the first meeting of the Group of Experts on this subject which is to be held in 1997.

7. Decides to convene a meeting of an Inter-governmental Group of Experts established by a resolution of the Twenty-third ICFM and to hold its first meeting in 1997 to examine the various dimensions of this problem and define ways and means to deal with this issue.

8. Urges Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Islamic countries hosting refugees given the economic and social difficulties caused by the presence of such refugees.

9. Calls on Member States to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the suffering of those refugees in Islamic countries.

10. Urges non-Member States to create better conditions for their Muslim communities, so that they are not forced to escape or are driven out as refugees because of religious, ethnic or racial oppression.

11. Condemns all acts of repression against the refugees, including armed attacks on their camps and pressures on the countries sheltering them.

12. Requests the Secretary General to continue to closely liaise with the hosting countries and cooperate and coordinate with the UNHCR with a view to intensifying the efforts of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the alleviation of the plight of the refugees in the Muslim World and to report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 37/24-P
ON
THE ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN TO SHELTER REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Proceeding from Resolution No. 20/K49 (1994) adopted by the UN General Assembly on extending humanitarian assistance to the Sudan, as well as the Note submitted by the Government of the Sudan on refugees and displaced persons;

Appreciates the efforts exerted by the Government of the Republic of the Sudan on establishing peace within the country which resulted in the return of a large number of Sudanese refugees from the outside affected by the rebellions movement in Southern Sudan;

Appreciating also the efforts of the Sudanese Government aimed at the reconstruction of the areas to which the Sudanese refugees have returned;

Appreciating the hosting by the Republic of Sudan of over one million refugees from neighbouring States despite the dwindling of the assistance extended to them by the international community and despite the slow process of the voluntary return of these refugees to their countries;

Taking into consideration the migration of large numbers of the citizens of the regions of the Southern Sudan to the North of Sudan escaping from atrocities perpetrated by the rebellious movement;

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General submitted to the Conference in this respect. (Document No. 24/96/PIL/D.24);

1- Urges international donors to extend assistance commensurate with the number of the refugees in the Sudan, and such as to help in their voluntary repatriation.

2- Invites the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance so as to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan aimed at resettling returning Sudanese refugees in the areas liberated from the hold of the rebellious movement as well as to provide shelter to the displaced persons who migrated to the North due to the military operations conducted by the rebellious movement.

3- Appeals to all the Member States to extend assistance to the Government of the Sudan so as to overcome the problems of refugees and displaced persons.

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4- Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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C. Muslim communities and minorities

RESOLUTION NO. 38/24-P
ON THE
GENERAL SITUATION OF MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES IN NON-OIC MEMBER STATES.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban,1417H (9 - 13 December, 1996),

Recalling that Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States account for over one third of the Islamic Ummah;

Recalling also the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by Islamic Summit Conferences, Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and international conventions, declarations and agreements, particularly those calling for observance of human rights namely political, social, cultural, economic rights and religious freedoms;

Further recalling UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

Reaffirming its commitment to Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC Member States and expressing its concern at the forms of intolerance towards some of these communities and minorities in particular the western hemosphere;

Condemning persecution and violations, especially those committed by aggression or occupation forces against Muslim communities and minorities in some non-OIC Member States;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the situation of Muslim Communities and minorities (Document No. ICFM/23-95/MM/D.1;

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the efforts exerted by the Secretary General for the implementation of the resolutions adopted on the Islamic Communities and Minorities in Non- Member States and requests the Secretary General to continue his efforts.

2. Emphasizes the need to see to it that the Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States preserve their religious and cultural identity enjoy equal rights, obligations and duties, and have access to all their civic and religious rights without discrimination or distinction.

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3. To confirm that preservation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States is, essentially, the responsibility of the governments of these states, on the basis of abidance by the principles of International Law and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

4. Calls upon Member States and the OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO) as well as non-governmental Islamic organisations, bodies and institutions, to provide the OIC General Secretariat, as early as possible, with available information, studies and statistics on the situation of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States so as to establish an advanced data-base which enables the General Secretariat to perform the tasks entrusted to it concerning these Muslim communities and minorities in a manner that satisfies the aims and objectives of the OIC.

5. Prompts the OIC General Secretariat may receive representatives of some Muslim Communities and Minorities in non-OIC Member States aimed at closely being informed about the conditions of these Muslim communities and minorities whom they represent; this is to be done within the framework of respect for the sovereignty of the states in which they live.

6. Urges Member States to pay special attention to those Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States who are exposed to persecution or oppression because of their religious beliefs and to know their needs which are to be communicated to the Member States so as to provide the necessary capabilities - material, human and in kind. Also to intensify the cultural and educational Islamic activities as well as various human assistance so as to accord more attention to improving the general situation of the Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States in general.

7. Invites Member States to exert necessary further efforts in order to inform, within the OIC Member States, about the reality of the problems of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States.

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8. Urges Member States to coordinate efforts for preparing able workers who can perform Islamic Dawah missions among Muslim communities and minorities in various countries of the world. These workers should include also qualified women. A series of integrated educational books on Islam, its rituals and principles should be written. These series should be a simplified one and in the form of publications or modern audio-visual messages. Special attention must be paid to translating thoroughly this material into the languages of the areas inhabited by Muslim communities and minorities, especially remote places.

9. Requests the OIC General Secretariat and the Islamic organisations and bodies that are members of the OIC Committee for the Coordination of Islamic Action, to hold an early meeting to consider drawing up an action plan on preserving the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, while giving special priority to the activities of societies that aim at Christianizing Muslim communities and minorities in the different parts of the world.

10. Invites the OIC General Secretariat to make contacts with the governments of the states that have Muslim communities and minorities in order to be familiar with their problems and needs as well as the conception of these States on finding a cooperation formula with the OIC aimed at making the required contributions for improving the conditions of these Muslim communities and minorities and preserving their religions and cultural identity. Priority should be given to contacts with governments of non-OIC Member States that have urgent and pressing problems relating to Muslim communities and minorities there.

11. Urges the OIC Member States to exert efforts towards governments of Non-OIC Member States where violations of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities take place so as to urge them to take necessary and immediate procedures to stop these violations and restore matters to normal course.

12. Decides to establish a contact group from among the permanent delegations of the Member States at the UN in New York and Geneva so as to deal with cases of violation of the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States as well as attempts to obliterate the identity of these communities and minorities. It may also be possible to hold, when necessary, a meeting of the group at Ministerial level.

13. Invites the OIC General Secretariat to follow up the UN activities relevant to the minority issue so as to be informed about developments on the situation of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Group of Experts.

14. Welcomes the recommendation contained in the report of the Third Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group of Experts Entrusted with the following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, to coordinate with this Group aimed at carrying out a comprehensive survey of the conditions of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and at a later stage to make the necessary arrangements at the well known international fora for preserving the rights of Muslim communities and minorities and requests the Group of Experts on Muslim Communities and Minorities in non OIC-Member States to continue its work through 1997.

15. Requests the Secretary General to prepare a report on the matter and submit it to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 39/24-P
ON THE
QUESTION OF MUSLIMS IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 417H (9 - 13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the previous resolutions and final communiques of the OIC on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines;

Recalling the Final Communique of the Sixth Islamic Summit welcoming the resumption of negotiations between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines under the auspices of the OIC aimed at reaching a political, just and comprehensive solution of the problem in the framework of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Philippines;

Recalling the Final Communique of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference welcoming the agreement between the participants in the official peace negotiations to focus their talks on the means to fully implement the 1976 Tripoli Agreement, in letter and spirit and that this should include:

a) Those parts of the Agreement left for further subsequent talks;

b) The Transitional Implementing Structure and Mechanism;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee of the Six entrusted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference with the follow up of the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines;

Recalling the Tripoli Agreement signed on 23 December 1976, under the auspices of the OIC, between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front which the signatory parties agreed to make it the basis for a permanent, just, honourable and comprehensive solution to the question of Southern Philippines within the framework of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines;

Recalling that in accordance with the Memoranda of Understanding by which the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front have concluded two rounds of preliminary talks, held in Tripoli, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 3-4 October, 1992 and in Cipanas, Western Java, Republic of Indonesia on 14-16 April, 1993 respectively, the two parties agreed to conduct official peace negotiations in order to fully implement the Tripoli Agreement of 1976, in letter and spirit;

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Recalling the First Round of the GRP-MNLF Formal Peace Talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia on October 25 - November 7, 1993, concluded positively with the signing of the "Memorandum of Agreement" in which the participants agreed to reactivate the Mixed Committee, set up five (5) Support Committees, and form an Ad Hoc Working Group on the Setting up of the Transitional Implementing Structure and Mechanism and the signing of an "Interim GRP-MNLF Ceasefire Agreement";

Recalling the Second Round of Formal Peace Talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on September 1-5, 1994 resulted positively with the signing of the "1994 Interim Agreement" recommended by the various Support Committees and the Mixed Committee;

Recalling the Third Round of Formal Peace Talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia on November 27 - December 1, 1995 resulted positively with the signing of the "1995 Interim Agreement";

Recalling the Fourth Round of Formal Peace Talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on August 29, 1996 resulted positively with the signing of the "1996 Interim Agreement" which formally adopted and confirmed all points of consensus reached during the latest two meetings of the Mixed Committee held respectively in Davao City on June 20-23, 1996 and in Jakarta on August 28, 1996;

Underlining the agreement by the participants of the Fourth Round of Formal Peace Talks to reaffirm all points of agreement contained in the "1994 Interim Agreement", "1995 Interim Agreement" and "1996 Interim Agreement" as the Final Agreement provided for in the "1976 Tripoli Agreement";

Appreciating the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines which contained a comprehensive presentation of the negotiation process between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (Document No.ICFM/24-96/MM/D.2);

1. *Welcomes* the "Peace Agreement" between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front initialed on 30 August 1996 in Jakarta and officially signed on 2 September 1996 in Manila.

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2. Appreciates the important steps already taken to fully implement the Agreement and calls on both the GRP and the MNLF to preserve the gains achieved as a result of the signing of the "Peace Agreement".

3. Pays tribute to the leadership of the Moro National Liberation Front under the Chairmanship of Professor Nur Misuari, as the sole legitimate representative of Muslims in Southern Philippines ("Bangsamoro people"), for their courage, political vision and wisdom which paved the way for the ultimate achievement of a political, just, comprehensive, and final solution to the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines.

4. Pays tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines under the wise leadership of President Fidel Ramos and its creative ideas which led to the establishment of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development and, consequently, to the achievement of the peaceful, durable, comprehensive and just settlement of the problem of Southern Philippines.

5. Pays tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, under the sagacious leadership of His Excellency President Soeharto, in facilitating the peace process culminating the signing of the Final Peace Agreement on 2 September 1996.

6. Also pays tribute to the role of the Government of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the wise leadership of His Excellency Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, in achieving the Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and in hosting the first exploratory talks in Tripoli from 3 to 4 October, 1992.

7. Commends the fulfillment of the mandate entrusted to the Ministerial Committee of Six, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, and the membership of the Libyan Jamahiriya, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of Somalia as well as the efforts exerted by the Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, to find a political, just, comprehensive, honourable and final solution to the problem of Muslims in Southern Philippines.

8. Also commends the positive contribution of the OIC Observer Team manned by Indonesian officers in maintaining the ceasefire therefore creating conducive atmosphere for the successful attainment of the Peace Agreement and their continuing role in the implementation phase of the Agreement.

9. Urges the Member States, the OIC subsidiary organs, specialised and affiliated institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank, to extend economic,

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financial, technical and material assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Southern Philippines through the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and/or the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD) under the leadership of the MNLF.

10. Decides to maintain the status and enhance the participation of the MNLF in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Bangsamoro people in Southern Philippines aimed at improving their conditions in accordance with the Peace Agreement.

11. Requests the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General to continue extending assistance as appropriate for the full implementation of the Peace Agreement during the transitional period pending the establishment of the regular autonomous region in Southern Philippines.

12. Urges the Member States to help in mobilizing a broad international support to both parties of the Peace Agreement in achieving peace, development and prosperity in the Southern Philippines.

13. Requests the Secretary General to communicate this resolution to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front.

14. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, to implement the "Peace Agreement" in full and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

D. Legal affairs

RESOLUTION NO.40/24-P
ON
THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC COURT OF JUSTICE

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Recalling Resolution 12/5-P(IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference regarding the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice;

Wishing to speed up the establishment of the International Islamic Court of Justice so that it may contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes among Islamic States;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the progress made towards the establishment of the Court (ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.1);

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States that have ratified the statute of the Court and the amendment of Article (3) of the Charter by the addition of a fourth paragraph (d) concerning the International Islamic Court of Justice.

2. Urges the Member States that have not yet ratified the Statute of the Court and the amendment of the Charter to accelerate the completion of the ratification procedure and to deposit their instruments of ratification at the General Secretariat as soon as possible, so that the quorum necessary for the Court to become operational may be attained.

3. Calls for continued coordination and consultation between the State of Kuwait, the host country, and the General Secretariat to look for the best ways and means for accelerating the establishment of the Court and its functioning thereof.

4. Invites the Secretary General to continue his intensive contacts and consultations with the Member States to expedite the attainment of the necessary quorum of ratifications to establish the Court and the commencement of its work.

5. Invites also the Member-States and the General Secretariat to deploy efforts aiming at publicizing and generalising the awareness of the utility of the Court, its objectives and the importance of its functioning as an optional judiciary mean to settle conflicts peacefuly.

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6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 41/24-P
ON
THE FOLLOW UP OF THE CAIRO DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISLAM

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Recalling the motives and the noble objectives which dictate the need and importance of underlining human rights which are guaranteed by the glorious religion of Islam;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Charter of the OIC and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to promote and encourage respect for human rights without distinction as to the race, sex or religion;

Mindful of the integrity of Islamic values on human rights and the great importance which Islam attaches to human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction;

Recalling Resolution No. 49/19-P of the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopting and issuing the document entitled "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam" which includes general guidance to the Member States in the field of human rights;

Recalling also Resolutions No. 37/20-P, No. 40/21-P, No. 39/22-P and No.40/23-P of the sucessive Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as Resolution No. 39/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit underlining the importance of the following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam;

Recognizing the utmost importance of human rights and its respect in international relations and in particular in relations among the OIC Member States, resulting from the current developments and interactions in the international arena;

Aware of the direct implications of this matter on the speedy achievement of development, progress and stability in various economic, social and political fields in Member States;

Having taken note of the Report of the Third Meeting of the Government Experts Group on the Follow-Up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam which is attached to the relevant Report of the Secretary General (Document No. ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.2-A);

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1. Welcomes the unanimous decision of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to issuethe Declaration on human rights in Islam as a general guidance for Member States in the field of human rights.

2. Recognizes the importance of following up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and to retain it as an item on the Agenda of the Regular Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and its continued consideration for the effectiveness of joint and concerted action by Member States and the General Secretariat in order to facilitate the promotion of all Islamic values in the field of human rights.

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the Report of the Third Meeting of the Governmental Experts Group on the Follow-up of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam; approves the proposals and recommendations made therein and calls upon the Member States to do their best for their implementation as it also requests the Secretary General to convene the fourth meeting of the Governmental Experts Group during the year 1996-97 in order to continue its task in accordance with the contents of the Group's Report which is contained in Document No. (HR/3-96/REP.1 FINAL).

4. Requests the Secretary General to report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the subject.

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RESOLUTION NO. 42/24-P
ON
COORDINATION AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Charter of OIC and the "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam" to promote, encourage and respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with Islamic values and teachings as well as the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other relevant instruments;

Mindful of the Islamic values on human rights, the supreme place of mankind in Islam as vicegerent of Allah on earth and accordingly the great importance that is being attached by the Islamic thought to promote, encourage and respect of human rights;

Aware that the increasing importance of human rights throughout the world calls for further intensification of the efforts of the Islamic Ummah and Islamic organizations in order to take appropriate initiatives at all levels for the promotion and protection of human rights;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the coordination among Member States in the field of Human Rights in accordance with Resolution 41/23-P (ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.2-B);

Noting the attempts to exploit the issue of human rights to undermine the principles of the Islamic Shariah and to interfere in the affairs of Islamic States;

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Member States and the General Secretariat for their positive coordination and contributions in the 50th Session of the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Commission.

2. Reitrates the need for further and more regular consultation and coordination among Member States in international Conferences and meetings relating to the field of human rights.

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3. Underlines the necessity of keeping abreast of the economic and social development with promotion and respect of human rights.

4. Calls for the continuation of the necessary measure of vigilance and caution towards the wrong interpretations and insult of the Islamic Shariah.

5. Requests the Secretary General to facilitate cooperation and coordination among Member States in these Conferences and Meetings, and report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 43/24-P
ON THE
STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION
OF THE AGREEMENTS
CONCLUDED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OIC.

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the Status of signature, ratification, and accession to the Agreements concluded under the auspices of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (Document No. ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.3);

Deploring that the quorum required from Member States for the coming into effect of many of these Agreements is not yet fulfilled in accordance with the provisions of their Statutes;

Realizing the importance of expediting the signing and/or ratification, by Member States, of these agreements for strengthening the role of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and facilitating its functioning and diversify and widen the fields of cooperation among Member States;

1. Urges anew, the Member States to sign and/or ratify, as soon as possible, the various agreements concluded in the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.44/24-P
ON
CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE U.N. TO DEFINE TERRORISM AND DISTINGUISH IT FROM PEOPLES' STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION.

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Committed to the moral and human principles that the O.I.C. Member States believe in, and inspired by their sublime and tolerant religion; their heritage and tradition which call for the renunciation of all forms of injustice, aggression and acts of intolerance;

Proceeding from the conviction that there is an international consensus on combating terrorism in all its forms; eliminating the evils and causes of terrorism directed against the life and property of innocent people, the violation of the sovereignty of States, and the jeopardizing of the rights of peoples;

Convinced of the need for drawing clear-cut and agreed upon international criteria, enabling to differentiate clearly between terrorism and people's struggle for national liberation;

Reaffirming the need for Islamic cooperation to take practical measures whereby terrorism is effectively fought and checked in the framework of what had been underlined in the Code of Conduct for combatting international terrorism, approved by Resolution 43/7-P (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Also reaffirming the fundamental and legitimate rights of all peoples living under colonial and racist regimes as well as foreign occupation to fighting occupation and to self-determination, particularly the struggle of national liberation movements;

Condemning all terrorist acts, including acts perpetrated by States, either directly or indirectly, which spread violence and terror and aim at destabilizing countries and communities;

Denouncing the frantic attempts at obliterating the distinction between terrorism and the legitimate struggle of peoples which conforms with the principles of international law and the provisions of the Charters of the O.I.C. and the U.N.;

Having observed the classifications adopted by some quarters due to tenditious political considerations in

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accordance with which some of the Islamic States are placed under what they name the list of States that harbour terrorism;

Recalling U.N. General Assembly Resolution 1514 (1960) on granting the right to self-determination and independence to colonised countries and peoples, and U.N. General Assembly Resolution 42/104, adopted on 7 December 1987;

Recalling also Resolution 42/7-P(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and Resolution 43/23-P adopted by the Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Secretary General's report on the convening of an International Conference under the auspices of the UN to define terrorism and distinguish it from people's struggle for national liberation (Document No. ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.4-A);

1. Reiterates its support for convening an International Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define terrorism and to distinguish it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation.

2. Commends the efforts made during the Fiftieth Session of the U.N. General Assembly regarding the convening of an International Conference.

3. Invites Member States in their replies to the U.N. Secretary General, in keeping with General Assembly Resolution 44/29, to stress the need for convening an International Conference for defining the meaning of terrorism, and for distinguishing terrorism from the struggle of peoples for national liberation and also calls upon them to exert all the necessary efforts during the next Session of the U.N. General Assembly in support of holding the International Conference as early as possible.

4. Requests the Secretary General to report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on this issue.

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RESOLUTION NO. 45/24-P ON THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMBATING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996)),

Recalling the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration of the Third Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 44/21-P adopted at the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi as well as the Resolution 43/7-P (IS) adopted at the Seventh Islamic Summit, which approved the Code of Conduct for combating international terriorism;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General No. ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.4-B;

Affirming the determination to combat the terrorist acts in all their forms and manifestations, including those where States are involved directly or indirectly;

Reiterating the engagement to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, eliminating the evils and causes of terrorism directed against the life and property of innocent people and sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability and security of States;

Emphasizing the importance of international and regional cooperation, especially among Member States, in combating effectively all forms of terrorism;

Reiterating the call upon Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness and non-intervention in the internal affairs of the States and to prevent the use of their territories by individuals or groups for the commission of territoristic acts against other Member States;

Emphasizing the importance of the establishment of a climate of confidence and solidarity among Member States;

Being aware of the negative implications on the image of Islam of all forms of terrorism which is alien and inapplicable to Islam and its traditions;

Expressing firm commitment to the principles and provisions of the Code of Conduct;

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Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the First Meeting of the Governmental Experts Group on the Follow-up of the Code of Conduct for combating international terriroism (Document No. ICFM/24-96/LEG/ D.4-B);

1. Requests the Secretary General to continue the dissemination of this Code.

2. Reaffirms the commitment of the Member States to the provisions of the Code of Conduct for Combating International Terrorism and calls upon Member States of the Organization to follow-up, coordinate their stands and achieve cooperation in the light of the principles and provisions stipulated in the Code at all international conferences and fora concerned with the international terrorism, and to cooperate with the General Secretariat for the facilitation and achievement of this coordination and cooperation.

3. Decides to hold a Second Meeting of the Governmental Group of Experts in 1997 to examine the most appopriate ways to disseminate and publicize, as well as the means to implement, the principles and provisions contained in the Code of Conduct for combating international terrorism, to the largest possible extent worldwide and urges the Member States regarding the necessity for paying due attention to the participation of their experts in the meetings of the Group;

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution in close cooperation with the Member States and submit a report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Confefrence of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 46/24-P
ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY
IN COMBATING HIJACKING

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolutions 28/12-P, 25/13-P, 22/14-P, 19/15-P, 3/16-P, 35/17-P, 31/18-P, 40/19-P, 29/20-P, 45/21-P, 44/22-P and 45/23-P on combating hijacking of aircraft adopted by the different Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into consideration that the hijacking of aircraft and the anguish caused to innocent passengers is a crime as grave as highway robbery which is prohibited by the Islamic Shariah in accordance with the text of the Holy Quran (Surat Al-Maida/33);

Noting that crimes of hijacking aircraft have continued in spite of all international agreements and conventions prohibiting them and calling for the imposition of more severe sanctions against hijacking;

Affirming that acts of violence against innocent passengers in addition to the dread, terror and suffering caused to them and to their relatives and their exposure to unjustified physical and mental torture are contrary to the provisions of Islamic Shariah;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the strengthening of Islamic solidarity in combating hijacking (ICFM/24-96/LEG/D.5);

Conscious of the need for the full observance of international conventions against hijacking;

1. Condemns all forms of international terrorism including the crime of hijacking aircraft and unlawful acts against the safety and security of civil aviation.

2. Calls on Member States to refrain from yielding to the demands of hijackers which constitute a form of extortion contrary to the interests of the peoples and countries of the OIC and established rules.

3. Calls upon Member States to take all necessary measures to curb such crimes and to inflict the most severe punishments against offenders involved in them or to hand them over to the other States concerned.

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4. Calls upon Member States which have not acceded to the Tokyo Convention (1963), the Hague Convention (1970) and the Montreal Convention (1971) on penalties for hijacking and guarantees for the security and safety of civil aviation, to expedite their ratification of and accession to these Conventions and urges the States which have already acceded to these Conventions to strictly and firmly implement their provisions.

5. Calls upon all Member States on whose territories hijacked planes land to exert the utmost efforts to foil the designs of the hijackers in accordance with international rules in this regard and, in cooperation with the country owning the aircraft, to prevent the aircraft from taking off, in accordance with the relevant international agreements.

6. Requests the Member States facing such situations to provide necessary assistance to the passengers, the crew members, the aircraft and the countries owning them, in accordance with the provisions of international agreements.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

E. Information questions

RESOLUTION NO. 47/24-P
ON
THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE OIC
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
FIFTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC).

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 2 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary General on the proceedings of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 27 and 28 March, 1996;

Recalling Resolutions No. 1/6-C (IS) and 45/7-P (IS) on COMIAC adopted by the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences respectively and approving the recommendations of the Committee during its Third and Fourth Sessions;

Recalling also Resolution No. 49/22-P adopted by the Twenty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Situation of International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation (ISBO);

1- Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Senegal for having hosted the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), and specially to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, the President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of COMIAC for his continuous support, commitment and wisdom in helping constantly the OIC to carry out its duties, in particular in the field of information.

2- Takes note of the Report of the Secretary General on the activities of the OIC under the auspices of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 27 and 28 March, 1996 (Doc. No. ICFM/24-96/INF/D.1).

3- Expresses its satisfaction with the decision taken by the Fifth Session of COMIAC to maintain IINA and ISBO as two separate institutions.

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RESOLUTION NO. 48/24-P
ON
THE INFORMATION PLAN.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 2 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the 1995/96 Programme of Action within the framework of the Information Plan (Doc. No.ICFM/24-96/INF/D.2);

Recalling resolutions 10/4-P (IS), 1/5-P (IS), 1/6-P (IS) and 46/7-P (IS) of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summits respectively, the recommendations of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) at its 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th sessions specially those relating to the financing and implementing the Information Plan, resolutions 44/11-P, 39/12-P, 30/14-P, 28/15-P, 33/16-P, 48/17-P, 44/18-P, 32/19-P, 41/20-P 48/21-P and 46/22 of the 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd Session of the ICFM on the Information Plan of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling also resolution 47/23-P of the 23rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopting the 1995/96 Programme of Action and calling on the Secretary General to submit a report on its implementation to COMIAC and to the 24th ICFM;

Recalling further the commitments made by Member States to establish an appropriate communication network aimed at reducing the imbalance in the flow of information in the Islamic World on the one hand and a specific information system to assert their national and cultural identities and combat the hostile campaigns directed at Islam and Muslims, on the other hand;

1. Reaffirms the need for Member States' strong support to, and effective participation in, the implementation of the Information Plan to ensure its success.

2. Appeals to Member States:

(a) To assume, individually or through cooperation among themselves, the execution of a number of operations of the Information Plan;

(b) To settle their arrears of contributions to the budget of the General Secretariat so that the latter can make up for the delay in implementation of the Plan arising out of such arrears;

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3. Approves the 1996-97 Action Programme submitted by the General Secretariat and drawn from the Information Plan, this programme having to be implemented in accordance with the decisions of the 5th Session of COMIAC and the following financing conditions:

- US$ 500,000 from mandatory contributions by Member States, and
- US$ 500,000 from voluntary contributions and donations.

4. Appeals to Member States to pay their mandatory contributions and also make voluntary contributions necessary for the implementation of this Action Programme.

5. Reaffirms the need for Member States to strengthen cooperation among their information organs, institutions and organizations, this being the only way to unite their efforts and pool their human, material and financial resources so as to provide the Islamic Ummah with an information system that is credible, up-to-date, and capable of defending its religion, its interests and its stands effectively.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to COMIAC and to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 49/24-P
ON
THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY (IINA)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 2 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the introductory report of the OIC Secretary General on the OIC specialized institutions in the field of information, and the report submitted by the Islamic International News Agency (IINA) on its activities and projects (Doc. No. ICFM/24-96/INF/D.3);

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Agency in the field of information and journalism;

Having noted the efforts being made by the Agency to expand and diversify its activities in the field of publication of books and bulletins on current events in the Islamic world, as well as reports and surveys on Islamic States, despite the financial, technical and journalistic difficulties it is experiencing;

Noting the role of the Agency in forcing its way to meet competition with other agencies by expanding its activities in the field of publications and bulletins which constitute reference documents for researchers in the Islamic world;

Expressing deep concern over the failure of some countries to settle their contributions to the Agency's budget;

1. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the constant support extended to the Agency, and to the Member States which have contributed human, moral and material assistance to the Agency, thereby enabling it to pursue its progress in the field of information.

2. Urges Member States to extend support to the Agency by providing it with additional editorial and technical staff so that it may achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information.

3. Requests information institutions in Member States to provide the Agency with information reports and printed material on developments in their countries.

4. Calls on Member States to pay their subscriptions and settle their arrears of contribution to the Agency budget so that the Agency can fulfil its responsibilities.

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RESOLUTION NO. 50/24-P
ON
THE ISLAMIC STATES BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION (ISBO)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 2 Shaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the introductory report of the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the OIC institutions specializing in the field of information and the report of the Secretary General of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization on its activities, projects and action plans (Doc. No. ICFM/ 24-96/INF/D.3);

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Organization in the service of the Islamic Da'wah, the dissemination of Arabic and the defense of Islamic causes;

Expressing concern over the increasing arrears of a number of Member States in the Organisation's budget;

1. Expresses deep gratitude and appreciation to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, for his generous donation of $ 800,000 to ISBO to cover the Organization's share in the production of a television programme for teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers.

2. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Radio and Television Union of the Arab Republic of Egypt for executing the television programme to teach Arabic to non-Arabic speakers and bearing half the cost of its production.

3. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Member States which have settled their contributions to the Organization's budget.

4. Calls on the Member States concerned to regularly settle their full contributions to the Organization's annual budget and arrange for the early settlement of their arrears so that the Organisation can implement the programmes and projects it has adopted and achieve the objectives of the Islamic Ummah in the service of Dawah and Islamic information.

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Annex III

RESOLUTIONS ON STATUTORY AND GENERAL MATTERS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/24-ORG
ON THE
FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE, THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS, THE SPECIALIZED AND AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Referring to the provisions of the OIC Charter;

Convinced of the need for the Organization of the Islamic Conference to play a more active and dynamic role with a view to achieving the objectives of the Charter and consolidating Islamic solidarity and cooperation;

Determined to give the needed impetus to the General Secretariat, to the subsidiary organs, and the specialized and affiliated institutions in order to respond effectively to the requirements of joint Islamic action, through the continued improvement of working conditions of members of the staff;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/7-ORG (IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Recalling also its previous resolutions, particularly resolutions 6/18-AF, 1/19-ORG, 1/20-ORG, 1/21-ORG, 1/22-ORG and 1/23-ORG adopted respectively by the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Functioning of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Subsidiary Organs, and the Specialized and Affiliated Institutions;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of Resolution No. 1/23-ORG contained in document ICFM/24-96/ORG. D-1;

Having taken note of the reforms undertaken within the General Secretariat and at the level of Subsidiary Organs in order to rationalize their functioning and management and enhance their effectiveness;

Deeply concerned by the serious financial crisis which has been besetting the Organization and its various institutions for several years;

Emphasizing the need to provide the Organization, the Subsidiary Organs, the Specialized and Affiliated Institutions with the means whereby they can accomplish their mission in the service of joint Islamic action;

1. Expresses its deepest gratitude to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and current Chairman of the

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Seventh Islamic Summit, for his solicitude and far-sighted directives to the General Secretariat, and the various Islamic institutions for strengthening joint Islamic action.

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the steps and initiatives of the Secretary General with a view to rationalizing the functioning and the management of the Organization while increasing its efficiency and implementing the relevant resolutions adopted by the Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on this question.

3. Notes also with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretary General aimed at strengthening and widening coordination and cooperation within the institutional family of the OIC and decides to strengthen sectorial cooperation, at the level of programmes particularly among the various organs and institutions involved in similar fields by inviting one another to participate in the meetings of their Boards of Directors as stipulated in their statutes.

4. Invites the Secretary General to further consider ways and means to ensure regular financing of the budget and activities of the General Secretariat and Subsidiary Organs and requests the Secretary General to engage in consultations with the subsidiary organs and the specialized and affiliated institutions with a view to identifying the various human, material, financial and technical potentials in order to implement their respective programmes of work, taking into account the principles of interaction, interdependence and cooperation within the institutional family of the OIC.

5. Invites also the Secretary General to continue to strengthen cooperation among the institutional family of the OIC in order to refocus activities, and to avoid duplication and overlapping.

6. Requests the Secretary General to convene an Expert Group Meeting in order to reflect on the criteria to be set for the admission of new full members to the OIC and to submit a report thereon to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

7. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/24-ORG
ON THE
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations (Doc. ICFM/24-96/ORG/D-4);

Taking into account the desire of both Organizations to cooperate more closely in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, racial discrimination, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order;

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which encourage activities carried out through regional cooperation to promote the objectives and principles of the United Nations and the Islamic Conference;

Noting with satisfaction the strengthening of cooperation between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions;

Noting also the encouraging progress made in nine priority areas of cooperation as well as in the identification of new areas of cooperation such as "Promotion of Development through Inter-cultural Dialogue";

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations System and its agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its institutions contributes to the promotion of the objectives and principles of the Charters of both the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Noting with satisfaction the determination of both organizations to further strengthen the existing cooperation by initiating specific proposals in the priority areas of cooperation;

Noting also with satisfaction the meeting undertaken by the Secretariats of the two organizations to establish a mechanism of cooperation in the political field;

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Resolution No. 2/24-ORG.

Recognizing the need for closer cooperation between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations System and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in the implementation of the proposals adopted at the coordination meeting of the Focal Points of the principal specialized agencies of the two organizations;

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject in particular Resolution No. 46/19-P of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, Resolution No.3/20-ORG and No.3/22-ORG of the of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, 3/23-ORG of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers as well as United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/8 of October 18, 1989, resolution 45/9 of October 25, 1990 and resolution 47/18 dated 23 November, 1992 and resolution 49/15 of 25 November, 1994 and resolution 51/18.

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Report of the Secretary General.

2. Notes with satisfaction the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations in order to achieve the objectives and principles of the Charters of the United Nations and of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

3. Requests the Secretary General in consultation with the Member States to consolidate the mechanism of cooperation with the United Nations system in the common search for solutions to global problems, such as issues of international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, racial discrimination, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order.

4 Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to broaden the scope of their cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its various institutions, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contacts and meetings of the focal points in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

5. Urges also the United Nations institutions, especially the main agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions in order to broaden the scope of their cooperation.

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6. Reiterates its appreciation to the Secretary General of the United Nations for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to serve their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields.

7. Requests the OIC Secretary General, in cooperation with the Secretary General of the United Nations, to encourage the convening of sectorial meetings in the priority areas of cooperation.

8. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the OIC Secretary General in the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and expresses the hope that he will continue to strengthen the mechanisms of coordination between the two Organizations.

9. Further expresses appreciation for the progress made in working out mechanisms of cooperation in the political field between the two Organizations and requests that consultations be held between them on a regular basis.

10. Requests the Secretary General to report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

11. Decides to include in the agenda of its Twenty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3/24-ORG
ON
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE OIC AND INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Welcoming the effort of the Secretary General to establish and maintain excellent cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations;

Recognizing the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the League of Arab States and especially the symposium they jointly conducted on Al-Quds Al-Sharif in Cairo in March 1995;

Bearing in mind the cordial relationship between the OIC and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) characterized by exchange of views, consultations and reciprocal attendance of each others' Summit and Ministerial Conferences;

Noting the useful relationship between the OIC and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the support the OIC receives from NAM especially in its effort to ensure a lasting peace in the Middle East;

Also noting the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) since the two Organizations signed a Cooperation Agreement in September, 1994;

1. Notes with satisfaction the excellent cooperation between the OIC and the League of Arab States and urges the two Organizations to continue to jointly organize seminars and symposia on subjects of common interest to them and which are beneficial to their respective member states.

2. Also notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretary General to conclude cooperation agreement with the OAU especially because the majority of the OIC Member States are also members of the OAU.

3. Further notes with satisfaction the useful consultations held by the Secretary General with the Secretaries General of ECO and Arab Meghrib Union and calls upon the Organization to strengthen cooperation with these two Organizations.

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4. Calls upon the Secretary General to maintain the useful interaction that he has been able to establish with the Non-Aligned Movement.

5. Invites the Secretary General to maintain cooperation and coordination with all the said international and regional Organizations not only for mutual benefit but also for the well-being of the Member States and the Islamic World at large.

6. Requests the Secretary General to submit progress report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 4/24-ORG ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Sha'aban 1417 H (9 - 13 December, 1996),

Referring to the relevant provisions of the Charter, in particular Articles 5 and 6;

Recalling the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly rules 2 and 9 concerning the convening of the Conference and the role of the General Secretariat;

Recalling also the relevant provisions of Resolution No. 1/19/ORG on the functioning of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, and notably its paragraph 17, setting the third week of the month of April of each year for holding the regular sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having noted with appreciation the offer made by the State of Qatar to host the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

1. Expresses its deep gratitude to the Government of State of Qatar for its generous offer.

2. Decides that the Twenty-Fifth Session of Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers will be held in the State of Qatar in March 1998 at a date to be fixed through consultations between the host country and the Secretary General.

3. Requests the Secretary General, in accordance with the prevailing technical, administrative and financial arrangements and in consultation with the Government of the State of Qatar to take the necessary steps for convening the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Miristers on the scheduled date.

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Annex IV

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON ECONOMIC, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

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REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AFFAIRS OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB - 01 SHAABAN 1417H (09-11 DECEMBER 1996).

The Economic, Science and Technology Affairs Committee of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) met from 28 Rajab to 1 Shaaban 1417H (9-11 December 1996) to consider agenda items 46 to 55 of the Regular Agenda of the Session.

2. The Committee used the draft resolutions prepared by the General Secretariat on the basis of the recommendations of the 20th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, held in Jeddah, from September 14 to 18, 1996 as the working document.

3. The meeting of the Committee was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Agus Tarmidzi (Indonesia). The General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Mr. Ousman N.R. Othman, Assistant Secretary General for Economic and Legal Affairs of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

4. The representatives of the following subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic conference also participated in the work of the Committee:

- Islamic Development Bank (IDB).
- Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara;
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca.
- Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), Dhaka.
- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), Jeddah.
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).
- Islamic Shipopwners Association (ISA).

Representative of the FAO participated in the meeting as an observer.

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5. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of the representatives of the same Member States elected to the Bureau of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, namely;

Chairman	...	Republic of Indonesia.
Vice-Chairmen	...	- Republic of Gabon. - Republic of Yemen. - State of Palestine.
Rapporteur	...	- Republic of Guinea.

6. The Committee deliberated on the various important developments in the world economic scene and stressed the importance of ensuring universality of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and emphasized the need for accelerated processing of WTO membership for intending countries.

7. It also expressed satisfaction for the successful holding of a consultation meeting of OIC member states organised by the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) as per resolution of the 12th Session of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) for coordination of their position during the first WTO Ministerial meeting held in Singapore from 9-13 December 1996.

8. The Committee congratulated the FAO for successfully convening the World Food Summit held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996. It called upon the Member States for implementation of the commitments as agreed upon at the Summit on an urgent basis.

9. The Committee decided to refer the specific proposals submitted by the Republic of Turkey with a view to rationalising the economic items for the agenda of the 25th Session of the ICFM to the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs for necessary action.

10. The Committee welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Meeting of the Ministers of Health of Member States of the OIC within the framework of the COMSTECH and with the collaboration of all OIC institutions concerned.

11. The Committee expressed the view that the agenda item on "Cooperation in Combatting Drug Abuse, Psychotropic Substances and their illegal production, processing and trafficking" should be handled by the Political Affairs Committee and hoped that in future this matter would be addressed accordingly.

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12. On conclusion of deliberations on all items, the Committee adopted a set of Resolutions (text enclosed) and its Report. It was decided that the Chairman of the Committee would submit them to the Plenary of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for adoption.

13. The Committee expressed its deep gratitude and sincere thanks to His Excellency Haji Mohammad Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, and H.E. Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, for their keen interest in the activities of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It also thanked the people and government of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the Conference and according generous hospitality to all the delegates.

14. The Committee also expressed its deep appreciation for the abiding interest of His Excellency Haji Mohamed Soeharto in the development of private sector in the Islamic world.

15. The Committee congratulated the Chairman H.E. Ambassador Agus Tarmidzi for the efficient manner in which he conducted its meeting.

16. The Committee also expressed its appreciation to the General Secretariat and all the subsidiary organs, specialized institutions and affiliated bodies of the OIC for their contribution to the work of the Committee.

17. The Committee also thanked the supporting technical staff for the preparatory work done and efforts made to ensure the success of its deliberations, and the interpreters and translators for their invaluable contributions.

Ambassador Agus Tarmidzi
Chairman of the Committee.

JAKARTA: 13 DECEMBER 1996
3 SHA'ABAN 1417H.

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having also considered with particular attention the results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Negotiations concerning certain sectors of international trade;

Having taken cognizance with appreciation of the studies prepared by the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries and Islamic Centre for Development of Trade on this subject;

Having considered the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Reiterates the need to take serious steps to ensure economic integration among the OIC Member States with the ultimate objective of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step-by-step and regional basis, among OIC member countries, in order to help overcome difficulties arising from the formation of global economic groupings.

2. Urges Member States to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

3. Urges also Member States to coordinating their efforts aimed at making the necessary contacts with the concerned international parties and organizations so as to safeguard the economic interests of Member States and not to prejudice their exports of various commodities and materials.

4. Calls on developed countries to create a more practical, equitable and more transparent environment enabling developing countries to implement their structural adjustment programmes to enable them to achieve sustainable development.

/...

5. Urges Member States to support the Common Fund established by UNCTAD with a view to stabilizing raw material prices.

6. Recognizes that the effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements would necessitate a certain measure of adaptation in the economic and administrative structures of the member countries to safeguard their interests and to take maximum advantage from the opportunities to be created thereby.

7. Appreciates the exchange of views conducted during the 11th and 12th Sessions of the COMCEC on "The Implications of the Uruguay Round of Agreements for the Foreign Trade of Member Countries" and "Privatization Experience of Member Countries" respectively and recommends that these exchange of views sessions be taken advantage of to coordinate the positions of the member countries on important world economic issues.

8. Notes with great concern the extraterritorial application of domestic laws which adversely affect the foreign investments in other countries, including the Islamic countries and rejects all coercive measures which may target Member States intending to expand further the area of cooperation in economic and commercial field.

9. Recognizes that if the OIC community is to become an active participant in global economic decision-making and world commercial relations, coordinated efforts would be the most effective means for mitigating losses and turning losses into profits.

10. Agrees on the need to closely monitor the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreement and requests the General Secretariat and related OIC Institutions to design and propose for implementation of technical assistance programmes to assist those among the member countries which might have difficulties in responding to the new challenges.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2/24-E
ON
IMPLICATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS ON THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 2/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Appreciating reports submitted by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic countries;

Having examined the Implications of the establishment of regional and international economic groupings and their impact on economic relations between the Member States of these economic groupings and the Islamic States;

Having also taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note with appreciation of the report the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Notes with appreciation that "Implications of Regional Economic Groupings, particularly the European Union for the economies of the Member Countries" will be the theme for the Exchange of Views Session to be organized during the 13th Session of COMCEC scheduled to be held from 1-4 November 1997 and urges the Member countries to be prepared and actively participate in the Session.

2. Urges Member States to intensify commercial exchanges among themselves and remove any obstacle which may hinder this action and exert necessary efforts to encourage economic and commercial cooperation.

3. Urges the developed States giving preferences to OIC member countries under various schemes to examine the erosion that is likely to occur in these preferences as a result of the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements and to consider to restore these losses by other trade concessions or forms of compensation within the framework of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements.

/...

4. Requests the Ankara and Casablanca Centres to continue to undertake studies on the effects of regional and international economic groupings on the economic conditions of the OIC Member States and make appropriate recommendations on the same with a view to safeguarding the national interests of Member States.

5. Requests the Secretary General to circulate these studies to Member States as soon as they are ready so as to get their views.

6. Also requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers taking into account the developments in the economic policies of the Regional and International Economic Groupings, including the European Union with a view to fulfilling their commitments towards the OIC Member Countries.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LAND-LOCKED MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 3/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its profound concern over the serious economic problems faced by the Least-Developed Member States and noting with disappointment the slow progress in the implementation of the new Programme of Action adopted in the Second UN Conference held in 1990 for Least Developed Countries, as well as in the increasing of the Official Development Assistance (ODA);

Expressing concern over the sharp decline in the prices of the raw materials produced and exported by the least developed countries;

Having taken note with satisfaction that, despite the sharp drop in oil revenues in recent years, the Islamic donor countries continued to provide significant external aid and that the amount of aid distributed to the least developed countries exceeded 0.15 per cent of their Gross Domestic Product;

Expressing satisfaction with the IDB's efforts for the extension of assistance to the Least Developed Countries and for the opening of a special account for them as approved by the IDB's Board of Governors at its Seventeenth Annual Session held in Tehran in November 1992;

Appreciating the report submitted by the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries;

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Considering with appreciation the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Appeals to the international community, and particularly to the developed countries to fully and efficiently implement the 1990 Plan of Action in this regard and the provisions of other UN resolutions, in particular those contained in UNCTAD VIII and recommendations contained /...

in the report of the High Level Inter-governmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s held in New York from September 25 to October 6, 1995.

2. Urges developed countries to increase their contributions within the framework of the International Development Strategy and to follow the example of States who converted the debts contracted by the least developed countries into grants in order to facilitate the implementation of the structural adjustment measures undertaken by these countries.

3. Notes with satisfaction the efforts of some Member States to extend assistance in the technical, financial, food and other sectors to the least developed member countries and hope that such assistance will continue.

4. Appreciates the continuous efforts of the General Secretariat as well as those of the IDB, subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions in this direction.

5. Stresses the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and the Least Developed Countries in particular.

6. Expresses concern at the declining trend in the quantity of ODA to the LDCs as well as the trend to attach conditions to the ODA and appeals to all member states for their continued strengthening support to increase the flow of ODA to the LDCs.

7. Calls upon both the land-locked developing countries and their transit neigbours, in the spirit of South-South Cooperation, including bilateral cooperation, to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with their transit problems.

8. Recognizes the necessity to respond to the needs of Land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructure.

9. Recalls with satisfaction that the negotiations embodied provisions conferring preferential and favourable terms to developing countries, including special attention to the particular situation of the least developed countries and calls on the international community to implement these provisions effectively and at the earliest.

10. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the evolution of this issue and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 4/24-E
ON
ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LOW-INCOME OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 4/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its concern over the prevalence of this phenomenon and its tragic dimensions which should be checked in time;

Reiterating the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty, notably in the Least Developed and Low-income Islamic countries;

Acting in conformity with Islamic rules and precepts as well as the OIC Charter and moved by the spirit of Islamic solidarity;

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Declares that the eradication of abject poverty in all Member States before the end of the next decade should constitute a common objective of OIC Member States.

2. Confirms the link between the acute nature of the poverty phenomenon and the distortion of the socio-economic development programmes due to the inappropriate international conditions, particularly those relating to the requisites of the infrastructure and the exacerbation of unemployment.

3. Urges Member States and the international community to take specific measures for the fulfillment of the commitments made at the World Social Summit, held in Copenhagen, so as to enable the Least Developed Member States to attain this objective.

/...

4. Reaffirms that a favourable international economic environment taking into account the requirements of developing countries, within the framework of the concessions to be granted to them in terms of financial and technical assistance and investment resources; in terms, also, of their access to international markets, raw materials price stability and appropriate structural programmes, is necessary for the success of the struggle being waged by LDCs and low income countries to help them eradicate poverty.

5. Appeals to developed countries to increase their aid programmes in order to attain 0.7% of the GDP in official aid to development, as fixed by the UN.

6. Urges the LDCs and low income countries to play in a more coordinated manner a more active role in international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

7. Requests Member States to intensify implementation of technical cooperation programmaes among themselves with a view to improving the sanitary, educational, human and housing conditions as well as other basic needs of their respective populations.

8. Encourages Member States, organs and institutions to support the programmes of OIC least developed countries and the low income ones, with a view to strengthening their local technical capabilities and creating production and job opportunities.

9. Stresses the importance of national policies and effective budgetary policies in the mobilization of national resources making it possible to combat poverty.

10. Reaffirms the need to give special attention to the eradication of poverty in the least developed and poorer Member States.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and Submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

/...

RESOLUTION NO. 5/24-E
ON
EXTERNAL DEBT OF AFRICAN AND OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OIC

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 5/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its deep anxiety over the external debts of the developing Member States which have been increasing at an alarming rate for the last few years;

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has written off the official debt of a certain number of least developed/landlocked and/or Sahelian Member States;

Appreciating the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait, who as Chairman of the Fifth Session of the Organization of the Islamic Summit Conference, declared in his speech to the UN General Assembly on 27/9/1990 that in order to alleviate the burden of indebtedness of the developing States, the State of Kuwait took the initiative of writing off the interests due on development loans extended to developing States;

Also expressing its appreciation for the efforts now being made by His Majesty King Hassan II, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit and H.E. the OIC Secretary General with a view to implementing the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit on the debt of OIC Member States;

Having also taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Appeals to international creditors to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of OIC Member States, in particular through staggered settlement of debts, deferred amortization, reduced and favourable interest rates or swapping debts for financing various development projects.

/...

2. Reaffirming the urgent need for effective equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and to help them exit from the rescheduling process.

3. Urges that approach in the debt settlement should cover all types of debt, including multilateral debt, and all indebted developing countries, and incorporate measures aimed at a once-and-for all reduction arrangement to reduce their debt burden to a scale that would allow them to resume their economic growth and development.

4. Expresses its gratitude to Member States which have already responded favourably to the above request and appeals to Member States to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to Member States, especially to the least developed, the land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.

5. Renews the call made to the international community, especially the developed countries, to offer substantial reduction of African debts and lowering of the burden of servicing charges while ensuring that this process is combined with the flow of fresh and considerable finances at soft-terms, to African countries.

6. Appeals to those Member States that have not yet done so and to industrialized countries and international organizations to implement the resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference on the external debt of OIC Member States.

7. Appeals also to Member States which are also donors to use their influence with the International Donor Community with regard to implementing this resolution.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

/...

RESOLUTION NO. 6/24-E
ON
NEED FOR A QUALITATIVE LEAP IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AMONG MEMBER STATES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT CHANGES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 6/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Reaffirming the relevance of both the new Strategy and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, endorsed at the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, and underlining in this respect, the dynamic and constructive role played by the President of Turkey in chairing the COMCEC's proceedings;

Realizing the quick evolution of the world economy towards increased globalization and integration, as well as the challenges embodied in the constitution of powerful economic blocs and by the growing liberalization of world trade;

Bearing in mind the forthcoming implementation of the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as the possible impacts of the Uruguay Round Agreements on the developing World in general and on the OIC Member States in particular, and recognizing in this respect the need for more cooperation and coordination among OIC Member States to ensure that growth in world trade will benefit the Islamic countries;

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring universality of the World Trade Organisation and convinced that as a result of the establishment of the WTO, trade relations between Member States should be placed within the framework of the rights and obligations provided for by the new trade rules contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round;

Taking note with satisfaction of the reports submitted by the SESRTCIC, ICDT, IDB, and ICCI on the subject;

Having considered the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also taking note of the Report of the Secretary General on the subject;

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1. Takes note with appreciation of all the decisions taken by the COMCEC relating to the Strategy and the Plan of Action for the strengthening of inter-Islamic economic and commercial cooperation.

2. welcomes with satisfaction, the under-mentioned proposals made by His Majesty King Hassan II to the international community on the occasion of the closing session of the Ministerial Conference of the Uruguay Round in Marrakesh:

a) The implementation of a "genuine Marshall Plan" in favour of Africa, with a view to reducing the tremendous poverty and lessen the recurring tensions from which its populations are suffering;

b) The setting up of a new international negotiations mechanism which will better safeguard the national interests of developing countries in general and particularly those of OIC Member States;

3. Exhorts Member States to take necessary steps on a progressive basis with a view to harmonizing the legal framework of their economic policies in order to adapt them to the new trade rules provided for within the WTO framework and encouraging thus a quick development of trade between Member States, so as to attain the target of 20% by the end of the decade.

4. Invites Member States to revitalize their actions in order to increase their share in the world economy notably by a sustained improvement of their international competitiveness at the level of the goods and services exports, by adopting a series of policies meant to improve their economic infrastructures, master the services sector, increase the value added and the quality of products, diversify the productive base and provide the required conditions likely to attract foreign investments.

5. Mandates the OIC to set up an Islamic Observatory for International Competitiveness within existing competent institutions in order to regularly follow the evolution of the market shares of Islamic Countries in the world economy.

6. Expresses deep concern at the tendencies among some developed countries to link labour and environment related issues with trade deals and emphasizes that such trends are detrimental to the evolution of a just, free and fair trading environment.

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7. Emphasizes the growing importance of the services sector in the world economy and calls on Member States to increase technical cooperation in this field.

8. Calls upon Member States to further increase their efforts and their budgetary allocations for Research and Development with a view to support their production of goods and services as well as their competitiveness in international markets.

9. Invites Member States to endeavour to reinforce sub-regional and regional markets and relaunch the existing economic integration projects among Islamic countries, with a view to methodically prepare the establishment of an Islamic Common Market or any other suitable form of economic integration among themselves

10. Affirms that in order to achieve the above objectives the private sector in Islamic Countries should play a prominent role through giving impetus to inter-Islamic economic relations and in this context invites the Governments of Member States to support the promotional economic actions undertaken by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in particular, concerning the establishment of direct contacts between private investors and businessmen in the Islamic countries.

11. Calls for the expeditious process of accession to the World Trade Organisation of applying developing countries, including the OIC members, and emphasizes that in this process no political consideration should be invoked which may impede the accession of these countries.

12. Invites Member States to strengthen their consultation and coordination mechanisms, particularly within the WTO, as well as in their relations with regional economic blocs, so as to better protect the individual and collective interests of the Islamic States.

13. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 7/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, OF THE SYRIAN CITIZENS IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN, OF THE LEBANESE CITIZEN IN OCCUPIED SOUTHERN LEBANON, AND THE WESTERN BEKKA AND OF THE ARAB PEOPLE IN OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 7/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Beliving in the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter aimed at strengthening Islamic solidarity among the Member States, and conforming with mass international will that rejects arbitrary Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territory which lead to deterioration of the economic and social conditions of Arab citizens under the yoke of Israeli occupation, on the one hand, and that supports the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region based on the (Land-for-Peace principle) resolutions of the international legitimacy 242, 338 and 425 as well as the authority of the Madrid Peace Conference, on the other;

Underlining the unfailing efforts exerted by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to promote the economic structure; and in view of the escalation of the illelgal and unlawful expanionist settlement policies of the new Israeli government, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Syrian Golan; and also in view of the serious implications of this escalation on the already difficult economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan;

Expressing extreme concern over the grave economic impacts, resulting from the adoption by the new Israeli government of an expanionist settlement policy, on the difficult living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and those of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan as well as the Arab people in the occupied Arab territory;

Appreciating with profound interest the role which the Palestine Liberation Organization and its National Authority (PNA) are playing in all territories under the PNA including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the improvement of the Palestinian people's living conditions and the overhauling of their national economy;

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Inviting attention to the danger of Israel's continued occupation of the Syrian Golan, South Lebanon and the Western Bekka region which are daily exposed to huge human, economic and material losses;

Emphasizing the resolutions of the recent Arab Summit in Cairo concerning this matter;

Having considered the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Hails the efforts made by the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Palestinian National Authority to rebuild Palestinian facilities, infrastructure and properties already destroyed and those being destroyed by the Israeli occupation authorities. It commends the strenuous efforts exerted by the Palestinian Authority to rebuild and strengthen Palestinian National economy.

2. Invites all concerned bodies to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people to establish their national economy, to act for the consolidation of their national institutions and to enable them to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

3. Reaffirms the earlier OIC resolutions in favour of the extension of all forms of economic, technical, material and moral support and assistance to the Palestinian people, while acting for preferential treatment to be given to Palestinian export products and granting them exemptions from taxes and tariffs.

4. Calls for the necessity of implementing the resolutions of the UN General Assembly on the economic assistance extended to the Palestinian people as well as resolutions of other international organizations and relevant specialized agencies. It also calls for uniting efforts during the Fifty-first Session of the UN General Assembly also as to pay special attention to the economic problems of the Palestinian people.

5. Urges the business people and investors of the OIC Member States to undertake the execution of the economic, industrial, agricultural and housing programmes in the territories of the Palestinian National Authority with a view to supporting and strengthening the Palestinian national economy.

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6. Condemns Israel's continuing occupation of the Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the escalation of its arbitrary practices against the Palestinian people in all of the occupied towns and villages, and building an expanionist infrastructure by establishing more settlements and calls for halting these practices and putting an end to them.

7. Further Condemns the continuing occupation by Israel of Syrian Golan, South Lebanon and the Western Bekka Valley, as well as the arbitrary Israeli practices which have resulted in the deterioration of the economic and social conditions of the Syrian and Lebanese people who are under occupation.

8. Expresses extreme concern about the serious economic implications resulting from the adoption of an expansionist settlement policy by the new Israeli government on the already difficult living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian territories as well as those of the Syrian citizens in the Occupied Syrian Golan and the Arab people in the other Occupied Arab territories.

9. Urges the OIC Member States to carry all necessary action at the international level to pressure Israel into lifting the brutal Israeli blaockade imposed on the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif. This blockade has resulted into extremely painful economic effects on the Palestinian people and raised the level of employment among the Palestinians. It also hampered international efforts aimed at realizing development in the occupied Palestinian territory and the territory of the Palestinian Naitonal Authority.

10. Calls on the Member States and the international organizations also to extend every necessary assistance to the Lebanese population in South Lebanon and Western Bekka which are daily and permanently exposed to Israeli aggression causing material losses and resulting in social hardship which paralyse almost permanently, the economic activities of the region.

11. Calls also on the Member States to coordinate as regards the resolutions on the subject.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow this question and submit appropriate report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 8/24-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES STRICKEN BY DROUGHT AND NATURAL CALAMITIES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 8/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern the grave situation caused by natural disasters, drought and desertification, and the ensuing damaging effects on economic and social conditions specially in the sectors of agriculture and food, economic and social infrastructures as well as public services and utilities;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by some Member States and the Islamic Development Bank which have extended and continue to extend technical and financial assistance as well as food aid to Member States stricken by drought and natural disasters;

Fully aware that afflicted Member States, belonging as they do to the category of the Least-Developed, cannot by themselves, bear the growing burden of anti-drought and anti-desertification campaign and the implementation of major related projects;

Having considered the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses its gratitude to Member States, which have provided and are still providing assistance and food aid to the Member States affected by drought and natural disasters.

2. Expresses also its gratitude to IDB for its continuing assistance to Member States afflicted by drought and natural disasters and encourages the Bank to continue its assistance in this domain.

3. Appeals to the International Community also to extend assistance to Member States struck by drought and natural disasters.

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4. Calls upon the Member States and OIC Institutions to extend assistance to OIC countries of Inter-governmental Authority for Development and the Campaign Against Drought (IGADD) and Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which is threatening them.

5. Requests the General Secretariat, the IDB and the International Islamic Relief Agency to convene a meeting in coordination with UN Specialised Agencies (particularly the Office of the International Decade for the Prevention of Natural Disasters ("INDR") of the UN Department for Humanitarian Affairs, in the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Prevention, with a view to organizing a meeting of experts entrusted with examining and recommending appropriate measures aimed at preventing and alleviating the effects of natural disasters in Bangladesh and other Member States affected and threatened by natural disasters.

6. Further Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of the previous resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 9/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LOSSES FOR GREAT JAMAHIRIYA AS A RESULT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS NO. 748/92 AND 883/93.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Having taken note of the negative effects on the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of the sanctions imposed on it by the Security Council under Resolutions No. 748/1992 and 883/1993, in the economic, cultural and social fields;

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the various fora of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Organisation of African Unity, the League of Arab States and the Non-Aligned Movement;

Reaffirms the importance of paying due attention to this issue with a view to alleviating the suffering of the Libyan Arab people.

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RESOLUTION NO. 10/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

The Twenty-fourth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 9/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Condemning the recent Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the premeditated Israeli attacks aimed at destroying the infrastructure of Lebanon and undermining the efforts of the Lebanese Government for national reconstruction;

Appreciating the release of the audacious report of the UN General Secretariat on the Qana massacre. This is the report that exposed Israel's intention to bombared innocent Lebanese civilians who took refuge at the Headquarters of the International Emergency Forces in Southern Lebanon;

Commending the efforts made by the Lebanese Government to achieve stability and security, assert its authority and recover its institutions;

Taking into account the difficulties encountered by the citizens living in the areas occupied by Israel and in neighbouring areas;

Appreciating the efforts made by the Lebanese authorities to reconstruct their country and consolidate the steadfastness of citizens living in areas occupied by Israel and taking into account the necessary requirements in this connection;

Having also taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Condemns repeated Israeli aggressions against Lebanon aimed at subverting the process of national reconstruction launched by the Lebanese Government. It also condemns the continued Israeli occupation of Southern Lebanon.

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3. Commends the UN General Secretariat for releasing the report of the Committee of Enquiry on Israel's direct and established responibility for committing the Qana massacre.

4. Affirms the previous resolutions aiming at extending financial, economic and humanitarian assistance to Lebanon in the light of its needs in the economic, technical and training fields.

5. Reiterates the appeal made by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to the international community calling for a generous contribution to the International Fund for the Reconstruction of Lebanon to ensure the effectiveness of this Fund.

6. Renews its invitation to the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and all international and regional organizations to provide all forms of urgent financial assistance and in kind to Lebanon so that it may rebuild what the Israeli occupation has destroyed and reinforce the steadfastness of the Lebanese in the regions occupied by Israel.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow this question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.11/24-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO MUSLIMS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 10/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Guided by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which lay stress on the common objectives and destiny of the peoples of the Ummah, as well as their commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC expressing its Members' full solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina who are still facing a dire situation resulting from the brutal inhuman attacks by the Serbs;

Taking also into account the resolutions adopted by the Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, held in Istanbul and Jeddah and followed by the Special Ministerial Meeting held in Islamabad as well as the 21st and 22nd Meetings of the OIC Foreign Ministers which were held in Karachi and Casablanca respectively and the Seventh OIC Summit, and the Work Pogramme of the 23rd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry on supporting the Dayton Agreement;

Expressing appreciation to the enlarged meeting of the OIC Contact Group held in Serajivo in April 1996 and stressing the principles contained in the Final Document adopted by the Meeting;

Welcoming the resolutions of the enlarged meeting of the Ministers of the OIC Contact Group which was held in Geneva in July 1996, especially those relating to the establishment of the Revolving Fund to be allocated to medium and small projects in Bosnia;

Also expressing its appreciation for the work of the Assistance Mobilisation Group for Bosnia-Herzegovina, formed during the OIC Kuala Lumpur meeting, towards providing humanitarian and economic assistance for concrete rehabilitation and reconstruction projects in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

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Having also examined the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having examined the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies. It also stresses the importance of the contiunation of the activities undertaken by the OIC Assistance Mobilization Group.

2. Commends the contributions of the OIC Member States at the Donors Conference for the Rehabilitation of Bosnia which was held in Brussels in April 1996.

3. Appeals to Member States, Islamic institutions and other donors to make generous donations as well as provide financial aid to enable the early implementation of the IDB Programme aimed at providing humanitarian assistance to the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina for the reconstruction of the country.

4. Expresses its appreciation for the assistance provided by the OIC Member States and for the commendable efforts of those Islamic and other international humanitarian bodies in providing relief and assistance to the victims of the aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

5. Urges upon the International Community to take efficient measures to ensure the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

6. Demands that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina be safeguarded and protected along its internationally recognized borders, and support the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which is open for the participation of the Bosnian Serbs and which represents a solid basis for a just and lasting solution by being a catalyst for restoring confidence among its peoples.

7. Requests the OIC Member States, at the same time members of the Peace Implementation Council in Bosnia-Herzegovina and its Coordination Committee to seek directing the biggest part of international assistance for reconstruction of Bosnia to the regions inhabited by Muslims of Bosnia.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 12/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 11/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Deeply concerned at the critical situation in Somalia and expressing the desire for early restoration of peace and order in that sister Member country;

Having also taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Urges OIC Member States, to provide material and other assistance on an emergency basis to Somalia to end the human suffering in this Muslim country.

3. Commends those Member States that have already provided aid and assistance to the people of Somalia.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 13/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA IN THE FACE OF REFUGEE INFLUX FROM LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 12/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Deeply concerned over the negative effects of the conflicts in Liberia and Sierra Leone on the economy, security and environment in the Republic of Guinea as a result of refugee influx from these two countries into Guinea;

Having also considered the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

After considering the report of the Secretary General on the matter;

1. Makes an urgent appeal to the international community and Member States to provide the Republic of Guinea with a substantial financial and material assistance to enable it to overcome this difficult situation resulting from the presence on its national territory, of hundreds of thousands of refugees due to the extension of the armed conflict in Liberia to Sierra Leone and the increasing influx into Guinea of refugees whose majority are Muslims coming from Liberia and Sierra Leone.

2. Underlines the necessity for such assistance in order to enable the efficient organization of the eventual return of refugees to their respective countries.

3. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance in the form of grant or soft term loans to the Republic of Guinea to enable the latter build the required social infrastructure for these refugees while reducing the degradation of the environment resulting from the presence of so many refugees.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 14/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaaban 1417 H (9 to 13 December 1996),

Recalling the pertinent Resolutions of the Twenty-First and Twenty-Third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also Resolutions 57/19-P and 9/20-E adopted by the Nineteenth and Twentieth Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, respectively;

Having heard the statement of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the situation in Sierra Leone;

Welcoming the results of the Parliamentary and Presidential elections in Sierra Leone;

Welcoming also the Peace Agreement signed in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on the 30th of November 1996 between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebel group thereby ending the five-year old fratricidal conflict in Sierra Leone which has caused untold damage to the civilian population, and the devastation of the country's social and physical infrastructure;

Considering the very crucial and commendable role played by His Excellency, Mr. Henry Konan Bedie, President of the Republic of the Cote d'Ivoire and the International Community in facilitating the holding of Peace Talks between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebel group which has culminated in the signing of a Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and RUF on the 30th of November 1996 in Abidjan, Republic of the Cote d'Ivoire;

Expressing appreciation for the sustained concern and interest of the leaders of the West African Sub-region, in particular, His Excellency President Lansana Conte of the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency General Sani Abacha of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Flight lieutenant Jerry Rawlings of the Republic of Ghana for peace to prevail in the Republic of Sierra Leone;

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Resolution No. 14/24-E

Expressing appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Arab Republic of Egypt and other friendly nations for the donations of food items, clothing and medicines for the refugees and displaced inhabitants of Sierra Leone;

Considering that the armed conflict in Sierra Leone has caused considerable damage to life and property and for five consecutive years has disrupted all economic activities particularly in the Mining, Agriculture and Industrial sectors, resulting in substantial loss of revenue to Government and the private sector;

1. Congratulates the Government and the people of Sierra Leone for successfully signing the recent Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) thereby ending the five-year old conflict in Sierra Leone.

2 Appeals to the Member States and the international community to urgently extend substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Sierra Leone so as to enable its people to undertake the much needed process of rehabilitation, reconstruction and resettlement of returnees and displaced inhabitants of about 1.5 million.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to use his good offices to accelerate the approved process for project already identified for Sierra Leone.

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of this Resolution and to report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO.15/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 14/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Expresses its strong support to the people of Albania beset by major economic difficulties at the present phase of their transition towards a market economy.

3. Urges OIC Member States, Islamic Institutions and International Organizations to grant generous economic assistance to Albania so that the Government of Albania may successfully implement its development programme.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 16/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 15/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Taking into account that Afghanistan is currently faced by serious constraints due to 17 years of war;

Noting that about 70% to 80% of its economic and social infrastructures has been destroyed;

Aware that over 1.5 million Afghans were killed, about 1.5 million disabled and more than 5 million displaced and took refuge in neighbouring countries;

Recognizing that about 10 million mines were planted in different parts of the country;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Urges the Member Countries to provide assistance to Afghanistan to solve its problems.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 17/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 16/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Aware that the Government of the Republic of Uganda is currently experiencing serious strain on its meagre resources as a result of the influx of refugees from neighbouring countries who flock into the country;

Recognizing that Uganda is offering asylum to large numbers of refugees whose number will increase if the state of unrest continues to escalate;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Invites Member States, Islamic institutions and international organizations to grant urgent financial and economic assistance to Uganda so that it may cope with the refugee problems and other related consequences as well as implement its economic, social and cultural programmes.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 18/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 17/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this grave and very critical time of the country's history;

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict;

Deploring the Armenian hostilities in the Upper-Karabakh district of Azerbaijan followed by the occupation of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory which forced almost one million Azeri people to flee their homes in the face of the brutal attacks and gross violations of human rights by this aggression;

Recognizing the need to demonstrate in more concrete terms the solidarity of the OIC Member Countries with the Government and people of Azerbaijan;

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Appeals to the Member States and Islamic institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the much needed economic and humanitarian assistance with a view to alleviating the suffering of the Azeri people.

2. Calls upon the international organizations to provide urgent humanitarian, financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 19/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KYRGYZSTAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 18/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Expressing its understanding of the situation which has arisen in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan after attainment of independence and sovereignty;

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties of the transitional period to the free market economy;

Expressing its sympathy towards the consequences of the natural disasters which struck the territory of Kyrgyzstan, thus affecting the socio-economic level of the brotherly people;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Appeals to all Muslims and Islamic financial institutions to be generous and to contribute to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties experienced by Kyrgyzstan either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organisations so as to enable Kyrgyzstan to fulfil its economic programme.

3. Appeals also to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Kyrgyzstan.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 20/24-E
ON
ASSISTANCE TO THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 19/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1- Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member Countries and OIC relevant bodies.

2- Appeals to Member States and Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund and Philanthropists, to contribute generously towards providing relief and humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

3. Also appeals to Member States and the Islamic Institutions to grant scholarships to the Kashmiri students in different universities and institutions in the OIC countries.

4- Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 21/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 20/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties faced by the Republic of Yemen which arose from the burdens of reunification and the big losses caused by the aborted secession attempt which took place in June 1994 as well as the devastating flood which swept Republic of Yemen in 1996.

Appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Government of the Republic of Yemen for the implementation of its policy of economic reform and the success so far achieved in this regard;

Taking into consideration the heavy burdens borne by the Yemeni Government to provide shelter for groups of refugees from neighbouring African countries;

Recalling that Yemen is one of the least developed countries;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts of Yemeni Government in overcoming its economic difficulties and implementing its policy of economic reform as well as the success so far achieved in this regard.

2. Also Expresses its appreciation for the assistance extended by some of the Member States and by the relevant affiliated organs of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

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3. Calls upon the Member States and all regional and international organizations to extend all kinds of economic assistance to the Yemeni Government in support of its efforts directed towards the implementation of the policy of the economic reform and overcoming the effects of floods that have devastated Yemen this year.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 22/24-E
ON
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference as well as resolutions of the 22nd and 23rd Sessions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers,

Noting with great interest the role played by the Palestine National Authority in the Palestinian Self-rule regions in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, with a view to improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and building up the national economy;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies.

2. Commends the efforts made by the Palestine National Authority in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions in order to reconstruct what occupation had destroyed, as well as the efforts exerted to build up and consolidate the Palestinian national economy.

3. Expresses great appreciation for the assistance provided by some Member States to the Palestinian people in order to build up the national economy in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions in the West Bank and the Gaza-Strip.

4. Urges the speedy granting of the required and approved assistance by the concerned Member States and OIC bodies, with a view to helping the Palestine National Authority and the Palestinian people in the building up of the national economy and the consolidation of their national institutions.

5. Reaffirms the previous resolutions advocating the provision of all forms of support and assistance as well as economic, technical, material and moral assistance in support of the Palestinian people and the Palestine National Authority and Urges that preferential treatment be accorded to Palestinian products as regards importation and exemption of taxes and customs duties.

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6. Urges businessmen and investors of Member States to contribute to the implementation of economic, industrial, agricultural and housing projects in the Palestinian Self-Rule regions, with a view to building up the national economy and enabling the Palestine National Authority and its national institutions to implement their development programmes, during the coming transitional period, in the various economic, social and health fields.

7. Appeals to Member States, in view of the obstacles raised by Israel in the face of the Palestinian labour force, to provide work opportunities to this Palestinian labour force, with a view to enhancing the socio-economic status of the Palestinian people and putting an end to unemployment.

8. Urges the Member States to conclude bilateral agreements with the Palestine Liberation Organization and its National Authority in the economic, commercial and social field, with a view to enhancing the socio-economic status of the Palestinian people on their national soil.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the efforts aiming at implemening the previous resolutions on the support to the State of Palestine and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 23/24-E
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 22/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Bearing in mind the recent admission of the Republic of Mozambique to the Organization of the Islamic Conference during the Seventh Summit of Heads of States and Governments held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in December, 1994;

Noting with satisfaction that the process of pacification and democratization in place in Mozambique creates a climate of peace and harmony conducive to a solid platform of a true reconciliation among Mozambicans, a "sine-qua-non" condition for the implementation of economic and social programmes;

Appreciating the efforts being made by the Government of Mozambique in the implementation of the national reconstruction programme;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Calls upon all Member States to continue their support to the implementation of the programme of reconstruction of Mozambique.

2. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank and all Islamic Institutions to provide the necessary financial assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes of Mozambique, particularly those needed to ensure the social reintegration of returnees and internal displaced persons and demobilized combatants as for the demining programme in course in that counrtry.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 24/24-E
ON
ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution 23/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Recalling Resolution No. 2/6-E(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 9-11 December 1991 on the activities of the COMCEC mandating it to formulate new Strategies for the enhancement of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among OIC Member States and to take appropriate action for its implementation;

Recalling resolution No. 8/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994) on the question;

Recalling the resolution of the Ministerial level meetings in different areas of cooperation held under the auspices of the COMCEC.

Also recalling the Resolutions adopted at the Twelfth Session of the COMCEC initiating effective action in economic cooperation among Member countries, particularly in the area of trade;

Further recalling the deliberations of the recently concluded World Food Summit held in Rome from 13 to 17 November, 1996 and considering the crucial importance for the survival of humankind including the well-being of the people of the Islamic Ummah, of the principles and commitments embodied in Rome declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World Food Summit.

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the General Secretariat, subsidiary organs, affiliated and specialized institutions of OIC, working in the field of economy and trade, to implement the Resolutions of the COMCEC and underlining the pivotal role played by the Ankara Centre in the preparation of the New Plan of Action;

Recognizing the importance for the Member Countries of the new economic configurations emerging at the global level particularly from the creation of the Single European Market; creation and strengthening of regional economic groupings in the Americas, Asia and Pacific; progress in the Middle East Peace Process, and signing of the Uruguay Round Agreements and creation of the World Trade Organization;

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Resolution No. 24/24-E

Appreciating that starting with its Eleventh Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy could exchange views on current world economic issues and, that the topic "implications on external trade of Member countries of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade Negotiations" and "Privatization Experiences in Member Countries" were the themes for the 11th and 12th Sessions of the COMCEC respectively.

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses satisfaction that the Islamic Development Bank has successfully organised a Coordination Meeting for Member States to consult among themselves and better prepare for the WTO Ministerial Meeting held in Singapore during the period 9-13 December and to adopt collectively a common stand regarding the issues raised in the Agenda of that meeting, as resolved by the 12th Session of the COMCEC.

2. Notes with appreciation that the Strategy for Economic Cooperation adopted by the COMCEC allows for cooperation among sub-groups of Member countries and is based on the principles giving emphasis to private sector, economic liberalization, integration with the world economy, sanctity of the economic, political, legal and constitutional structures of the Member Countries and their international obligations.

3. Also notes with appreciation that the New Plan of Action is a general and flexible policy document open for improvement during its implementation in accordance with the provisions stipulated in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

4. Appreciates the efforts of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry in organizing Private Sector Meetings as directed by the COMCEC for an effective implementation of the Plan of Action.

5. Also appreciates the efforts of the Republic of Indonesia for organizing the Third Private Sector Meeting in Jakarta from 21 to 23 October 1996 in conjunction with the Sixth Islamic Trade Fair organized in cooperation with ICDT from 22 to 27 October 1996 also in Jakarta.

6. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Lebanon to host the 7th Islamic Trade Fair.

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7. Emphasizes the need to urgently implement the New Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member Countries of OIC, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the Strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

8. Requests the Member States to take appropriate measures including necessary cooperations, coordination and consultations among themselves to make efforts with the required possible economic and technical support from international community particularly from the developed countries and relevant international organizations and financial institutions to increase their food production capacity with a view to arriving at national food security as well as enhancing the purchasing power of their people.

9. Invites the Member States to host sectoral meetings in the areas of cooperation listed in the Plan of Action.

10. Welcomes the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host two sectoral experts group meetings in the areas of "Transport and Communications" and "Food, Agriculture and Rural Development" of the Plan of Action.

11. Welcomes the offer of Republic of Turkey to host a sectoral meeting in the area of "Money, Banking and Capital Flows" of the Plan of Action in 1997.

12. Welcomes the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host a sectoral meeting on foreign trade within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Action.

13. Invites IDB to continue its active support in view of ensuring effective and urgent implementation of the New Plan of Action.

14. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Senegal to organize in cooperation with IDB and the COMCEC Coordination Office, Sensetization Seminar to familiarise the African member states with the Plan of Action, and recommends that similar seminars be held in other regions and sub-regions of OIC.

15. Expresses the opinion that the Exchange of Views organized during the annual sessions of the COMCEC would be utilized to coordinate the positions of the Member Sates vis-a-vis major world economic issues.

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16. Notes with satisfaction that the theme "Implications of Regional Economic Groupings, particularly the European Union, for the Economies of the Member Countries, will be the theme for the exchange of views sessions of the 13th Session of COMCEC to be held from 1-4 November 1997 in Istanbul.

17. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of the resolutions adopted by COMCEC and to continue extending to the latter every necessary assistance and fulfil its tasks and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 25/24-E
ON
COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution No. 28/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 24/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Also recalling that tourism has been identified as a priority area for cooperation in the Plan of Action adopted by the 7th Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca in December 1995;

Convinced that tourism forms a main pivot in economic development, cultural exchange and rapprochement between nations;

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Requests the Secretary General to convene, as soon as possible, an Expert Group Meeting in the area of Tourism within the framework of COMCEC and the New Plan of Action to Strengthen the Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among OIC Member States preliminary to holding a Conference of Ministers of Tourism of Member States.

2. Appeals to Member States to host the Expert Group Meeting on Tourism.

3. Meanwhile Invites Member States to cooperate in the following areas:-

- provision and exchange of publicity and advertising materials on tourism in different languages,
- organizing special tourism and gastronomy weeks and popular art exhibitions in the Member States,
- production and exchange of documentary films on main archeological landmarks in the Member States,

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- organizing group travel among Member States, to strengthen bonds among their people,
- encouraging tourist investments in Member States and directing investors to realize tourist projects in these States,
- facilitating contacts among experienced tourist offices in Member States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 26/24-E
ON
STATUS OF THE SIGNING AND RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND STATUTES ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

. The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution No. 18/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 25/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Having reviewed the developments in respect of signature and/or ratification of the (i) Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among Member States, (ii) General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, (iii) Framework Agreement on the Establishment of the Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States, (iv) Statute of the Islamic Civil Aviation Council, (v) Islamic States Telecommunications Union, (vi) Agreement on Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit;

Having also taken cognizance of the resolutions issued by the Eleventh Session of COMCEC on the matter;

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses satisfaction at the efforts of the Secretary General, of the IDB and COMCEC to speed up the implementation of the Agreements and Statutes aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among Member States.

2. Also expresses satisfaction over the initiatives taken by COMCEC to effect the signing of the Agreements/Statutes that fall within the framework of cooperation among Member States and recommends that this practice be pursued.

3. Notes with satisfaction that 16 Member countries have already signed the Framework Agreement and that Seven have ratified it and urges those who have not yet done so, to do it as soon as possible so as to enable the required negotiations to start.

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4. Calls upon Member States which have not yet signed and/or ratified the above mentioned Agreements/Statutes to do so, at their earliest and also urges Member States that have ratified to take follow up actions and inform the General Secretariat about the progress of implementation.

5. Notes with satisfaction that the Agreements for the establishment of the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit have come into effect as of 1 August 1994.

6. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the IDB for its efforts to establish the Corporation.

7. Invites Member States which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Agreement of the Corporation and pay their respective subscriptions to its capital to make it possible to draw the expected benefits at the widest scale possible within the OIC system.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 27/24-E
ON
REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS ACTIVE IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE FIELDS.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution No. 19/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Also recalling Resolution No. 26/23-E adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the activities of the Subsidiary Organs of the OIC, namely; the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara; the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca; the Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), Dhaka; and the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), Jeddah; respectively;

Having taken note with satisfaction of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the above-mentioned subsidiary organs;

Appreciating the increasing number of joint activities among the OIC organs and agencies;

Expressing its appreciation at the role played by the subsidiary organs in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member States;

Also expressing appreciation for the role played by the Subsidiary Organs in the elaboration of the New Strategy and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among OIC Member States;

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Commends the role which the Ankara, Casablanca and Dhaka Centres and IFSTAD are playing each in their respective fields.

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2. Urges the Member States to actively and effectively participate in the work of these organs and expeditiously respond to the questionnaires circulated by them, and closely follow up their documents and studies so as to achieve maximum benefit from these organs in the area of economic cooperation among the Member States.

3. Encourages these organs to intensify contacts with international institutions working in the framework of the United Nations and others, and to benefit from the studies and reports produced by these institutions.

4. Urges the Member States, which have not done so thus far, to settle their regular mandatory contributions to the budgets of these bodies, and to act for the settlement of their arrears, if any, at the earliest in view of the current financial difficulties being faced by these organs.

5. Notes that the Member States are to benefit from the special services offered by the subsidiary organs, above and beyond the tasks assigned to them in their work programmes, on a contractual basis.

6. Requests the Secretary General Secretariat to circulate among Member States the reports of the OIC/UN Cooperation Meetings so far as these organizations are concerned.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the question and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 28/24-E
ON
SUPPORT FOR THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Having taken note of the Resolution No. 6/6-(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 20/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 27/23-E of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having noted with appreciation of the activity report of the Islamic Development Bank on the subject;

Having noted the recommendations of the Eleventh Session of the COMCEC;

Noting with satisfaction that the Islamic Development Bank continues to expand its field of operation and activity concerning project financing, trade import and export financing, technical assistance, technical cooperation, special assistance and other fields of cooperation such as food security;

Noting with appreciation that the IDB has played an active role in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action adopted by the Third Islamic Summit as well as of the various decisions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Further noting with satisfaction that within the framework of its commitments aimed at meeting its Member States' needs, the IDB has had to elaborate strategies of new programmes some of which were initiated under the auspices of COMCEC for the promotion of inter-Islamic trade;

Noting with satisfaction that the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC) commenced its operations in July 1995, and expressing thanks and appreciation to IDB for its efforts in successfully finalizing the establishment of the Corporation;

Having taken cognizance of the Resolutions of the Twelveth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), held in Istanbul, from 12-15 November 1996;

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Resolution No. 28/24-E

Having taken note also of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses its deep satisfaction for the devotion and efficiency with which the IDB President and his assistants are ensuring the good functioning of this institution which continues making an invaluable contribution to the development and progress of Muslim populations.

2. Calls on the Islamic Development Bank to keep up its beneficial action and increase the necessary resources for increasing its services to the Member States, and to the Islamic Ummah at large.

3. Congratulates the Islamic Development Bank on having set up the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit.

4. Calls on the Member States to participate in various schemes recently launched by the Islamic Development Bank and to benefit from the Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme, Islamic Banks' Portfolio, IDB Unit Investment Fund, the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit along with IDB's other existing schemes, programmes and operations.

5. Appeals to the Member States who have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit and to pay their respective shares to its capital so that its benefits would be extended to as wide an OIC area as possible.

6. Requests the General Secretariat, the IDB, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade to jointly organise seminars on regional basis on the various schemes approved by the COMCEC namely the Longer Term Trade Financing System, the Islamic Export Credit and Investment Guarantee Corporation, the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States and the Islamic Clearing Union with a view of ensuring efficient and the speedy implementation of these schemes for the benefit of business community of the Islamic Ummah.

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7. Invites the Member States which have not yet done so to subscribe to the second capital increase of the IDB and to settle their outstanding contributions and other financial commitments.

8. Calls upon the Member States to lend their support to the Bank so as to enable it to fulfil its obligations and commitments towards fostering economic development and social progress of the Member States.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 29/24-E
ON
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS OF THE OIC OPERATING IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMY AND COMMERCE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Recalling Resolution No. 21/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 28/23-E of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking cognizance of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI); Islamic Shipowners Association (ISA); and the International Association of Islamic Banks (IAIB), and appreciating the recent Trade Mission effected by the ICCI to five countries in West Africa;

Expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the implementation of the Plan of Action to strengthen economic cooperation among Member States;

Also expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the elaboration of the new strategy of the COMCEC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member Countries;

Confirming the important role the Private Sector has to play in the development of Member States and promotion of Intra-Islamic Cooperation;

Appreciating the role played by these three institutions in their respective fields of action;

Having taken cognizance of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Notes with appreciation the important role which the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Islamic Shipowners Association and the International Association of Islamic Banks are assuming in their respective fields.

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2. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce for hosting and organizing the Second Private Sector Meeting, in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Islamic Chamber, which was held from 30 September to 02 October 1995 in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

3. Takes note with appreciation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Second Private Sector Meeting and in the Cairo Declaration.

4. Congratulates the ICCI for its important initiative aimed at maintaining contacts with businessmen and promoting socio-economic development in Member States.

5. Appeales to the Governments of Member States to encourage their Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry to develop a framework of cooperation with the Islamic Chamber and contribute to its programmes to enhance trade and investment among Islamic States.

6. Appreciates the efforts undertaken by the Islamic Chamber to host the Third Private Sector Meeting in Jakarta, in collaboration with the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce, concurrently with the Sixth Islamic Trade Fair in October 1996.

7. Further appreciates the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the Fourth Private Sector Meeting.

8. Commends the current initiatives taken by the Islamic Shipowners Association to establish a Maritime Company and Cooperative Information System (CIS).

9. Urges the Member States which have not done so yet, to sign the Statute of the Islamic Shipowners Association.

10. Appeals to Member States to continue to extend their support and assistance to the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Islamic Shipowners Association, and the International Association of Islamic Banks.

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11. Invites the Islamic Shipowners Association to speed up the progress of establishing Islamic Shipping Companies and urges Member States to encourage the participation of national maritime companies and businessmen of their respective countries to join these companies as well as organizing Liner Conferences and/or coordinating their positions in such Liner Conferences.

12. Calls on the institutions concerned in economic affairs to hold an annual coordination meeting in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.

13. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION NO. 30/24-E
ON
ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF FLOODS AND TORRENTIAL RAINS IN SUDAN

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab to 03 Shabaan 1417H (9-13 December 1996);

Noting the devastating natural disaster sufferred by Sudan as a result of floods and torrential rains in many parts of the country,

Realizing the tragic effects involved, including the sweeping away of farms, the destruction of thousands of homes and the wiping out of infrastructures, which, in turn, led to the displacement of tens of thousands of citizens, the shortage of food and agricultural products, the pollution of environment and the ensuing dangers to public health,

1. Commends the Member States which have alaready extended prompt relief, namely: the State of Qatar, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. Urges Member States to respond to this humanitarian appeal by extending the necessary assistance.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and make a report thereon.

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RESOLUTION NO.31/24-E ON THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT (IFSTAD)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H, (9-13 December 1996),

Pursuant to the decision of the 23rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Affairs held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea in Rajab 1416H (December 1995) directing, among others, that the 20th Islamic Commission should examine the situation of IFSTAD and make a recommendation to be submitted to the 24th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for appropriate decision;

Having taken note of the report of the extraordinary meeting between the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of IFSTAD;

Having examined the report of the Secretary General highlighting all the financial and other problems of IFSTAD;

Having considered all the various aspects of the problem;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

1. Supports (with regret) the option to close IFSTAD as provided in the report of the Secretary General and also the report of the meeting between the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of IFSTAD.

2. Agrees that all the financial implications relating to the closure and liquidation of the Foundation should be adequately addressed.

3. Also agrees that a Special Committee composed of the Secretary General, the Adminsitrator-in-Charge of IFSTAD, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Indonesia, should be constituted to address all the financial implications and all other matters relating to the closure of IFSTAD and including the reallocation of the duties of IFSTAD to other OIC bodies working in the field of Science and Technology.

4. Directs that the report and recommendations of the Committee be submitted by the Secretary General by 31st January 1997 latest to the Chairman of the 24th ICFM for the necessary consultation and coordination with the host country for the liquidation of the Foundation.

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RESOLUTION NO.32/24-E
ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD INCLUDING ISRAELI PRACTICES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN, IN OCCUPIED SOUTHERN LEBANON AND THE WESTERN BEKKA AND IN OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES BY ISRAEL.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H, (9-13 December 1996),

Having noted the resolution adopted on this issue by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December 1995),

A) Environmental Problems in the Islamic World.

Recalling previous Resolutions on this subject especially Resolutions 2/19-E, 17/21-E, 22/22-E and 29/23-E of the 19th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers respectively;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Stressing again the right of all human beings to enjoy a healthy and non-polluted environment, as a basic human right;

Re-emphasizing the right of States to protect their environment from harmful activities, and to cooperate among themselves to that end;

Noting with concern that the condition of the environment has reached a stage that requires taking effective measures to stop its deterioration;

Recognizing that environmental degradation both natural and manmade is a major global concern which requires the strengthening of international cooperation and extending effective contributions for the protection of the environment;

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Noting with satisfaction the recent developments towards the finalization of the International Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought, which was adopted in Paris in September 1994 and inviting the Member States, which have not ratified all the relevant conventions, including the International Convention on Combating Desertification, to do so, as soon as possible;

Stressing the need for closely and constantly monitoring the global environmental situation and relevant activities and also supporting the establishment of mass-destruction-weapons-free-zones in the Muslim world;

Expressing its deep concern over the devastating effects of hazardous, toxic and radioactive wastes on humankind and the environment and supporting the establishment of mass-destruction-weapons-free-zones in the whole world.

Strongly condemning the attempts by some developed countries to export their hazardous and radioactive wastes for dumping in developing countries, and appealing to Member States to sign the Basel Convention on Dangerous Wastes and the Bamako Convention and relevant international agreements;

Guided by the principles of Islam which enjoin the Muslim peoples to safeguard the bounties that Allah has granted them on Earth;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this subject;

1- Requests Member States to continue to incorporate environmental considerations in their developmental policies.

2- Urges the Member States which have not ratified all the UN International Agreements on the Environment including the International Convention on Desertification and Drought to do so as soon as possible so that the Convention can come into force.

3- Calls on Member States to mobilize available financial and institutional resources needed for implementing national programmes of environmental protection.

4- Urges the Member States to attach greater importance to the question of the protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and to its relevance to sustainable development.

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5- Condemns Israel's continued rejection to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and carrying out uncontrolled nuclear programmes;

6- Appeals to the international community to conduct active scientific research on the rise in sea levels so as to protect wildlife in the territories of the Member States.

7- Urges the developed countries to discharge their obligations under prevailing international agreements on the transfer to developing countries of financial resources and environmentally sound technologies.

8- Reaffirms the determination of the Member States to work for the strengthening of international cooperation in seeking solutions to global environmental problems and requests the donor States and international financial institutions to extend further support to regional networks and national focal points in States stricken by desertification.

9- Stresses that multilateral cooperation for the protection of the environment should include the provision of additional financial resources and access to environmentally sound technologies for the developing countries.

10- Calls for the dissemination of pioneering experiments for the application of environmental development in the Islamic States and the use of the latter's available expertise in this field, whether through bilateral cooperation or multilateral programmes for the exchange of expertise.

11- Requests Member States to promote coordination and cooperation among environment monitoring networks and remote-control sensing centres and coastal control posts and all other environment protection organs in Islamic States.

12- Urges all Member States to continue consultation and coordination among them at all international meetings including consultations relating to environment protection, especially in the field of hazardous and radioactive waste.

13- Expresses its satisfaction at the fruitful cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations Environment Programme;

14- Calls for the intensification of this cooperation with emphasis on the problem of the remnants of World War II and other wars in the Islamic countries, which impedes development of their societies, and calls on the international community to address the problem immediately and take the necessary measures to remove land mines and war remnants.

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15- Appeals to the parties to World War II to expeditiously provide Member States with information, data and maps on mines planted in their territories during the war and commit themselves to extend immediate aid and assistance required for the removal of these mines which still cause huge damage to human lives and obstruct development and construction in vital areas, while taking into consideration the decisions of the UN Conference on the Question of Mines which was held in Geneva this year.

16- Calls on Member States to intensify coordination and consultation among themselves in the framework of the UN and others, particularly specialized agencies concerned, on tackling this subject in an effective and meaningful manner.

17- Expresses solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning its position on the question of the minefields left on in its territory by World War II, their grave effect on the environment and the accidents and grievous damage they cause to thousands of its citizens. Also appeals to Member States to stand in solidarity with the Jamahiriya in its efforts to overcome this problem and its right to demand compensation for the damage and that the countries responsible for the mine danger finance mine-hunting operations and produce minefield maps to the Libyan authorities concerned.

B) Israeli practices and their effects on the environment in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan, the occupied Southern Lebanon and Western Bekkah and other Israeli occupied Arab territories.

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling Previous OIC and other International Resolutions on this subject;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Also recalling resolutions 14/11-E and 15/18-E of the UN Environment Programme with respect to the environmental conditions in the Israeli occupied Palestinian Arab Territories, Syrian Golan, Lebanese and other Arab territories;

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC;

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Reaffirming the rights of mankind to a dignified life enjoying a healthy environment, free of pollution as a basic human and sacred right;

Expressing deep concern over the escalating brutal and expansionist practices of the Israeli occupation authorities which include seizure of land and water-resources, the demolition of houses, the construction of new settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab Territories, especially in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan, the uprooting of trees, the destruction of crops, the cutting off of irrigation waters, the deforestation of wide expanses of land and the use of toxic gases with the attendant serious effects on the Palestinian and other Arab inhabitants and the economic and social situation in those lands;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on this issue;

1- Condemns and censures Israel for its aggressive policies, the confiscation of Palestinian lands, the setting of forests on fire, the cutting off of irrigation water and the seizure of water resources, thereby causing considerable decay of ecological conditions in occupied Palestine and aggravating the economic and social situation of the citizens.

2- Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan and other occupied Arab territories, and considers illegal any violation of this right.

3- Requests the Member States to continue to extend help and assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and the Arab citizens in the Lebanese occupied territories in drawing up the plans deemed necessary for environmental conservation within these territories and stresses that implementation measures be adopted for consolidating such plans and taking steps to expose the policies pursued by Israeli occupation authorities which have led to ecological decay in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupied Lebanese territories.

4- Strongly Condemns Israel's persistence in changing the legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and its practices aimed at changing its environmental conditions as well as its geographical, demographic and historical features and at imposing Israeli laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan and South Lebanon and its Western Bekkah.

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5- Decides to strengthen cooperation among the Member States in the field of earthquake monitoring and establish a mechanism from the Member States on the Red Sea so as to monitor earthquakes in the region and exchange the necessary information on treating this phenomenon.

6- Condemns Israel's continuous rejection to join the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty and to pursue nuclear programmes which are bound to cause serious damage to the neighbouring Islamic States as these programmes are not subject to monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency and calls upon the international parties and bodies concerned to adopt the measures necessary for putting an end to this damage, while stressing the importance of cooperation among the Member States concerned in the field of monitoring radiation fallout in the area.

7- Acknowledges the good quality of the IFSTAD report on the crucial environmental issues affecting Member States and strongly emphasizes the need for similar indepth studies of such issues so that Member States can keep abreast of their future development and implications.

8. Requests that the action programmes recommended in the report of the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development should be considered for implementation.

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RESOLUTION NO.33/24-E
ON
COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES AGAINST EPIDEMIC DISEASES WHICH AFFECT HUMAN, ANIMAL RESOURCES AND NATURAL LIFE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H, (9-13 December 1996),

Referring to the resolution 30/23-E adopted on this issue by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Twentieth Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Expressing grave concern at the worldwide spread of infectious diseases affecting human, animal resources and natural life in recent years;

Considering the gravity of the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (ESB) epidemic, its severe current and potential impact on animal and human health, the economy and commercial exchanges in the light of transmissions from one species to another and the economic confrontations sparked by the so-called "mad cow" crisis, and given the enormous social and financial costs of such an epidemic in case it spreads in OIC Member Countries;

Concerned by the alarming progression of the Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), its connection with the increase of international travel, and the slow progress in medical research aimed at finding satisfactory and affordable treatments and preventive methods;

Appreciating the preventive and curative health measures taken by the Member States for the pilgrimage season in particular;

Also expressing its deep appreciation of the excellent and efficient health services made available to the Pilgrims by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on this subject;

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Resolution No. 33/24-E

1- Calls for greater coordination among Member States, other countries and the World Health Organization to combat these dangers by using new vaccines and implementing new immunization programmes against contagious diseases.

2- Appeals for greater coordination and cooperation in the field of health by applying international health regulations such as compulsory vaccination of all Pilgrims coming to the Holy Places and the improvement of sanitary conditions as well as cooperation in health education of the Pilgrims before their departure through the appropriate media available in their countries.

3- Urges all Member States, their competent national and regional institutions, and to international cooperation institution, in particular the World Health Organisation (WHO), to set up immediately a mechanism of early warning, control and rapid exchange of information on the marketing and import of meat and by-products infected with ESB (or "mad cow" disease);

4- Invites Member States to a serious reflection on the reprehensible practices on the part of certain food industrialists, on the import of dangerous foodstuffs, on the urgency and priority of encouraging and supporting scientific, and more particularly medical research in the fields and specialities concerned, and on developing their local agricultural and animal produce in a way as to reach a satisfactory level of food self sufficiency;

5- Invites Member States to collectively organize the fight against the expansion of the AIDS pandemic and to seriously uphold medical research efforts in this field at the national, regional and international levels;

6- Also invites Member States to devote a special attention to highlighting the religious moral values in their educational establishments, their media and their Dawa fora, as those values are the most effective means to prevent the spread of that epidemic.

7- Requests that a meeting of the Ministers of Health of Member States be convened at an appropriate time on the subject of epidemic diseases.

8- Requests the Secretary General to take appropriate steps for the implementation of this Resolution.

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RESOLUTION NO.34/24-E
ON
COOPERATION IN COMBATTING DRUG ABUSE, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR ILLEGAL PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND TRAFFICKING.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H, (9-13 December 1996),

Referring to the resolution 31/23-E adopted on the subject by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and the other previous resolutions adopted by the 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd Session of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Control of Narcotics and Drug Abuse;

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Expressing its concern at the manufacture and illegal trafficking as well as the widespread abuse of drugs which endanger the health of millions, particularly among young people;

Noting with concern the new dimensions of the ever growing narcotics problem which is threatening the social and economic fabric of the afflicted countries;

Taking into consideration the results achieved by the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the field of drug abuse, including the declaration and comprehensive multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in drug abuse adopted by the 1987 International Conference on Drug Abuse and illegal trafficking and the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic of Narcotic Drugs and Psychoropic Substances;

Noting with appreciation the declaration and global programme of action adopted by the 17th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly held in New York in February 1990, and the declaration of the London Conference on Control of Cocaine and restriction of drugs (April 1990);

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Reaffirming its conviction of the need to supervise the manufacture, production, trafficking, import and export of drugs and psychotropic substances, in accordance with the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the 1988 Convention on Narcotic Drugs on ways to strengthen and enhance the cooperation against illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances;

Recognizing the importance of taking measures to control drug materials including chemicals and solvents which are used in the manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances, the availability of which has increased their illicit processing;

Affirming the guiding principles of the prevailing treaties on control of narcotics and psychotropic substances as well as the control system embodied in these treaties;

Realizing the urgent need for Member States and relevant international organizations to exert concerted and coordinated efforts to eradicate the problem of abuse, trafficking and smuggling into Islamic countries, of narcotics and psychotropic substances;

Reviewing the effects of drug abuse and its illegal production, processing and trafficking on Member States;

Recalling that the teaching of the true Islamic religion categorically forbids the use and trafficking in drugs;

Having considered the Secretary General's Report on the subject;

1. Requests the Member States to diligently follow up the guidelines contained in the recommendations made by the OIC Expert Group Meeting held from 18-20 October 1988 in Istanbul, Turkey, on the effective measures to combat the problem of narcotic drugs in all its aspects and dimensions, including illicit production, trafficking, processing, trafficking and trade.

2. Urges the Member States to coordinate their efforts and harmonize their systems related to the licit production and trade of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances within the framework of the relevant international organizations.

3. Also urges the Member States to give greater attention to the propagation of religious consciousness and discussion within their respective educational institutions and mass media on the gravity of the production, use and trafficking in drugs as well as their illegality.

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4. Welcomes the measures taken by some Member States to draw attention to the damaging effect of narcotics and affirms the importance of preventive measures including the need for crop/income substitution and accessibility to international markets for substituted products.

5. Requests the Member States to continue to intensify their cooperation and to exchange information and technical expertise to control narcotic drugs.

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RESOLUTION NO.35/24-E
ON
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND WAYS AND MEANS TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUES OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H, (9-13 December 1996),

Referring to the resolution 32/23-E adopted on the subject by the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab 1416H (9-12 December, 1995),

Acknowledging the close interdisciplinary relationship between the Environment and other developmental sectors including Health;

Considering the importance for Member States to preserve the basic necessities of sustainable development and to continuously assess and monitor their environmental problems and issues including Health;

Noting with appreciation the Member States awareness of Environmental issues and active role during and after the U.N. Conferene on Environment and Development (UNCED);

Recalling the previous relevant resolutions 1/18-E of the 18th Session of the ICFM, 20/21-E of the 21st Session of the ICFM, 10/6-E(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit, 25/22-E of the 22nd Session of the ICFM, 25/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit and 32/23-E of the 23rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Conscious of the urgent need for the Member States to avail themselves of objective, independent and unbiased information on their environmental situation and possible remedies that would best serve their interests;

Appreciative of the efforts made by the General Secretariat of the OIC, its Subsidiary Organs and the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation (COMSTECH) to parepare environment-related projects and programmes;

Having taken note of the recommendations of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having examined the Report of the Secretary General on this subject;

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1. Welcomes the offer made by the Republic of Tunisia during the Twenty-first ICFM to host the meeting of the Governmental Expert Group to do an exhaustive study of the interconnected issues of the environment, health and sustainable development from a perspective that would serve the interests of Member States better and would lead to the establishment of a closer cooperation between them and the relevant OIC and other international institutions.

2. Renews its request that the Secretary General undertake the above mentioned study by constituting a Governmental Experts Committee comprising at least two Representatives from each geographic region of the OIC in addition to the relevant Representatives of the General Secretariat and COMSTECH to meet in Tunisia in order:

(a) to draft guidelines for the above study;

(b) to discuss the terms of reference of the said study and work out the administrative, logistic and financial details of its implementation.

3. Decides that the requested study should be carried out through COMSTECH in close consultation with the Member States and their relevant institutions and the General Secretariat, and in cooperation with regional and international organizations.

4. Requests the Secretary General to submit the results of the aforesaid study by the Governmental Experts Committee to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for consideration.

Annex V

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

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REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)
JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB - 3 SHABAN 1417H
9-13 DECEMBER, 1996

1- The Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) met in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417-H corresponding to December 9-13, 1996 in order to examine the agenda items pertaining to Cultural and Islamic Affairs.

2- The deliberations of the Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee were opened by His Excellency Ambassador Boer Mauna of the Republic of Indonesia, host to The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. His Excellency started the meeting by welcoming the delegates present and wishing them a pleasant stay in their second home. His Excellency emphasized the need for the Committee's deliberations to be characterized by realism. He added that, despite the huge responsibility that lies with us, we are convinced that fraternal cooperation, mutual understanding among the august members and projecting an Islamic spirit will ensure the success of the Committee's proceedings. His Excellency also proposed a work programme which was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3- According to the decision of the General Assembly, the Bureau of the Committee was made up of the following member countries:

- The Republic of Indonesia - Chairman

- The Republic of Gabon - Vice-Chairman.
- The Republic of Yemen - Vice-Chairman.
- The State of Palestine - Vice-Chairman.
- The Republic of Guinea - Rapporteur.

4- The General Secretariat was represented by Ambassador Mohammed Mohsin, Assistant Secretary General for Cultural, Muslim Minorities and Communities Affairs and Mr. Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Director of Cultural and Social Affairs.

5- The Committee's deliberations considered the agenda Items 56 to 61. The Committee's deliberations on each item were preceded by a background presentation made by the Assistant Secretary General for Cultural Affairs and the draft resolutions were adopted unanimously by the participants.

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6- A special emphasis was put on the financial difficulties faced by the subsidiary Organs, Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutions, in their functioning. It was maintained to renew an urgent appeal to the Member Countries for a quick solution to this crisis.

7- The Committee adopted the report on its deliberations and approved the draft resolutions relating to the items on its agenda annexed to this report.

8- The Committee commended the Chairman for his excellent conduct of the deliberations and for his good performance which contributed to the conclusion of the deliberations in an optimal manner.

9- The Committee's Chairman expressed his very sincere thanks to all the members for the brotherly atmosphere which prevailed during the meeting and for their thorough knowledge of the issues examined which enabled the Committee to achieve positive results within the specified time.

10. The Chairman also expressed his thanks to the Assistant Secretary General for his excellent assistance in conducting the Committee's proceedings. He also extended his sincere thanks to the technical staff and translators and interpreters for the competent performance of their tasks.

Jakarta, Shaban, 1417H.
Corresponding to December, 1996.

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RESOLUTION NO.1 /24-C ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the Government of Niger, the OIC General Secretariat, the Board of Trustees of the University, the IDB and the ISF for the continuation of the University's action and smooth functioning of the Islamic University of Niger.

Expressing its thanks to Member States, in particular, the United Arab Emirates, the ISF, Al-Azhar Al-Shareef, the Islamic Development Bank, Rabitah Al-Alam Al-Islami, the International Islamic Charitable Organization, World Islamic Da'wa Association, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Iqra Charitable Organization and the Sheikh Zayed Institution for Humanitarian and charitable Works and to all those who extended support and assistance for the establishment and functioning of the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Niger;

Recognizing the need to provide the University with regular financial resources and the necessary educational and material support.

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 1/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Expresses its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts which led to the reopening of the University and the resumption of its activity. It also expresses its appreciation for the positive cooperation of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in supervising the academic and cultural aspects of the educational action of the University.

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(b) Commends to the consistent support extended by the ISF to meet to the major part of the University's annual budget and appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, and Islamic Charity Organizations to give financial and material support to this important Islamic institution, considering the annual deficit the modest budget of this university is faced with due to the lack of resources.

(c) Also reaffirms the need of establishing a Waqf whose proceeds would be sufficient to ensure steady resources for the University as is the case for the Islamic University in Uganda, urges donors to step up their efforts to achieve this objective and requests the University Board of Trustees to act in this direction with a view to securing a final solution to the long-term financial problems of the University.

(d) Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Niger for having donated a plot of land in central Niamey as a Waqf for the Islamic University of Say.

2. Requests the Member States and financial and charitable institutions to consider the possibility of opening a woman section and a health centre inside the University after obtaining the approval of the Board of Trustees of the University.

3. Commissions the General Secretariat to publicize the needs of the university in academic personnel, curricula, books and financial support to all the Member States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Uganda;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda for having ratified the University Statute and its submission of instruments of ratification at the OIC General Secretariat;

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation (Kuwait), the International Islamic Da'wah Association (Libya), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, and other Islamic institutions for their generous support to the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Uganda;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 2/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Invites the Board of Trustees to continue its action to ensure appropriate conditions for the University to fulfill its tasks in accordance with its Statute and the Headquarters Agreement signed by the Government of Uganda and the OIC General Secretariat.

(b) Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic Charity Institutions, to contribute material and financial assistance for the annual operating budget of the Islamic University in Uganda and which is faced with an annual deficit due to the lack of financial resources.

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(c) Expresses its satisfaction with the involvement of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the supervision of the educational and cultural aspects of the teaching process in the University, the elaboration of appropriate curriculums, the adoption of the necessary books and reference material and assistance to strengthen the teaching of the Arabic language in the University.

(d) Commends the generous financial support extended by the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques through the establishment of a Waqf for the University. It also expresses its thanks to the Government of the Republic of Uganda for having donated a plot of land in central Kampala to the Islamic University in Uganda, as a contribution towards the setting up of the Waqf. The Conference also commends the provision by the Islamic Solidarity Fund, of financial assistance to the Islamic University in Uganda for the past academic years, which enabled the University to continue assuming its tasks throughout the difficult circumstances it had experienced.

(e) Appeals to Member States and the IDB to make donations for the construction of faculty buildings for the University.

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Uganda.

3. Commissions the General Secretariat to publicize the needs of the university in academic personnel, curricula, books and financial support to all the Member States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/24-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the Recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Islamic University in Malaysia;

Also taking note of the continuing satisfactory progress of this University;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for its continued material and financial and other support towards covering the operating expenses of the University and the construction of its new campus;

Also expressing appreciation to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions which have extended moral and material assistance to the University;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 3/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Requests anew that the OIC General Secretariat and the Member States further contribute to the progress and development of the International Islamic University in Malaysia so that it can further increase its capacity and use all its potential to achieve its objectives.

(b) Notes with great satisfaction the progress achieved by the University in the fields of research and learning, thanks to its enlightened management and to the support extended by the Malaysian Government to all its activities.

(c) Appeals to all Member States which have not yet concluded Agreements of Co-sponsorship of this University, within the framework of their bilateral cooperation with Malaysia to do so at an early date.

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(d) Reiterates its request of all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, ISESCO and other Islamic institutions to continue supporting this University by extending financial aid, supplying the University with academic reference books and manuals to enrich its library and giving it of any other relevant assistance such as curricula, teachers and scholarships to enable more students to enrol in this University.

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 4/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on the Islamic University of Bangladesh;

Noting the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the execution of other necessary works;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 4/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Expresses its appreciation to the Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended assistance to the University.

(b) Urges all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the Muslim World League and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the University so that it can achieve its objectives.

(c) Calls upon the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh to ensure continued financial and moral support to the University.

(d) Also calls upon the General Secretariat, in cooperation with ISESCO, to provide academic assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh, from Member States Universities through secondment of teachers and provision of scholarships and books.

2. Commends the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the development of the University, bearing its operational costs and the building of the new University Campus so as to accommodate a larger number of students.

3. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Bangladesh.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 5/24-C
ON
KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on King Faisal Mosque in Ndjamena, Republic of Chad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 5/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Emphasizes the pressing need for the Islamic and educational services provided by this Islamic institution, King Faisal Mosque as one of the Islamic educational institutions that needs special attention on the part of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and ISESCO.

(b) Requests the Government of the Republic of Chad and the General Secretariat to prepare the technical study and cost estimates needed for the rehabilitation of the Mosque and its annexes and to communicate them to Member States.

(c) Urges all Member States to make financial contributions towards the restoration (and furnishing) of the Mosque and its annexes.

(d) Requests all Member States and Islamic financial institutions to contribute to this institution by providing it with curricula, teachers and scholarships for graduate students so as to enable them to pursue their higher studies in other Islamic Universities

2. Charges the Secretary General to take all necessary steps in coordination with the relevant authorities in Chad to determine the present condition of the Mosque and its educational and cultural annexes.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 6/24-C
ON THE
REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH, TIMBUCTU, MALI.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu (Mali);

Welcoming the efforts being made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for the development of the Institute;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 6/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions to continue providing material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu so that it may achieve its objectives.

(b) Appeals to the Member States which have technical facilities in the fields of conservation and processing of manuscripts to provide scholarships to the officials of the Institute to enhance their competence in these fields.

(c) Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) and invites them to pay greater attention to the Institute and provide it with the necessary technical assistance so that it may continue to carry out its functions.

2. Charges the Secretary General, in cooperation with the relevant authorities in Mali, with updating the information relating to the Institute.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 7/24-C
ON THE
REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute for Complementary Education in Islamabad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 7/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Emphasizes once again, the importance of establishing the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and promoting the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries.

(b) Expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to establish this Institute and ensure its operation and extends its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has extended to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the secondment of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

(c) Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools to contribute generously to this project.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 8/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 8/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Expresses its satisfaction at the implementation of phase I of the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

(b) Requests the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat to continue their coordination with a view to completing the ongoing construction of the Great Mosque in Bissau, within the limits of the financial resources currently available.

(c) Calls on all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

2. Expresses sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the State of the United Arab Emirates and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the moral support and financial assistance they have extended to the Centre.

3. Charges the Secretary General with taking the necessary steps to determine the present condition of the Centre, in coordination with the competent authorities in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 9/24-C
ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE IN MORONI,
ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF COMOROS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the establishment of an Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;

Taking into consideration the need of the Muslim people in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros for such a centre;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Centre in question;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 9/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Calls on the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the Government of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros with a view to overcoming the difficulties that hinder the establishment of the Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni and expediting the establishment of the Centre given its benefits for the Comorian and the neighbouring peoples.

   (b) Expresses its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Indonesia, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Islamic Dawa Association (Libya) which have been the first to give financial assistance to the Centre.

   (c) Urges all Member States and Islamic institutions to render every possible assistance to this project.

2. Charges the Secretary General with taking the necessary steps with the relevant authorities in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros to assess the present status of the project of the Cultural Centre in Moroni.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 10/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM
(REPUBLIC OF SUDAN)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the relevant paragraph of the Twenty-First ICFM on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken Note of the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organization on the said Institute;

And appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government so as to enhance this Institute and to ensure its continuity;

1. Urges the Member States to extend assistance to the Institute so as to enable it to continue to play its important role in teaching and training the students.

2. Urges the OIC Subsidiary organs as well as the relevant centres and quarters to extend financial and technical support to the Institute and to cooperate with it in the fields of common interest to them.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.11/24-C
ON
STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING AND EXECUTING THE CULTURAL STRATEGY AND THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Declaration of Makkah Al-Mukarramah issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference and the various resolutions adopted by other Islamic Conferences and particularly Resolution 1/6-C(IS) by virtue of which the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference held in Dakar adopted the Islamic World's Cultural Strategy and the attendance Plan of Action;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world as well as the report prepared by the First Meeting of Officials of OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Organs and Islamic Universities concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 15/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Reiterates the importance of this strategy in ensuring a wider propagation of learning, eradicating ignorance, raising the level of Islamic education and culture in the Islamic world and enhancing Joint Islamic Action.

   (b) Recommends the continuation of the remarkable efforts being exerted for the implementation of the strategy through a programme of action already approved by the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi in April 1993, and the early convening to that effect, of a meeting of Ministers of Culture.

   (c) Requests Member States to take the necessary steps to incorporate the strategy into their cultural and educational policies.

2. Recommends that preparations for this Conference be made by the OIC General Secretariat in cooperation with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 12/24-C
ON THE
ADOPTION OF A UNIFIED STAND ON THE BELITTLING OF ISLAMIC SANCTITIES AND VALUES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Emphasizing the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on coordinating efforts to protect the sacred values and places;

Expressing deep concern at the aggressions, by the spoken and written words as well as by action against Muslims in many parts of the world targeting their values, sanctities, selves, properties and religious and cultural heritage, in addition to the violation, curtailment and denial of their basic rights and freedoms relating to their belief and the exercise of rituals;

Recalling the resolutions and statements of the various and successive Islamic Conferences on the Adoption of a Unified Stand on the Belittling of Islamic Sanctities and Values, especially Resolution No. 17/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its deep concern at the killing of Muslims and the aggression against their shrines in Palestine, India, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the world;

Taking note of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the legal and procedural aspects relating the conclusion of an international legal document that ensures respect for Islamic values and sanctities;

1. Condemns anew these aggressions and violations wherever they may occur and whatever their source, means or manifestation.

2. Strongly reaffirms all the provisions of the statements and resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Conferences in this respect.

3. Appeals to all Member States to stand resolutely against these challenges and to confront them with every available means so that the values, shrines and rights of Muslim minorities and communities in non-Islamic States may not be subject to profanation, demolition or confiscation.

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4. *Welcomes* the circulation by the Secretary General to circulate to all Member States of the legal and procedural memorandum prepared by the General Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an international legal document so as to ensure observance of the Islamic values and sanctities, in order to elicit their opinions and observations concerning the substance and form of the document; in preparation for the setting up of a Governmental Expert Group to examine the issue and conceive a legal document thereon, in the light of the observations that may be put forward by the Member States, and on the basis of relevant international instruments, and to submit the results of the work of the Group to the next Session of COMIAC and the Islamic Conference of foreign Ministers.

5. *Requests* the Member States that has not, as yet, done so, to speedily despatch, to the General Secretariat, their views and observations regarding the aforesaid Document so that a meeting of the Governmental Experts Group be held at the appropriate time for drafting the proposed Draft Document.

6. *Requests* the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 13/24-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION AND ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the International Islamic Women's Organization;

Conscious of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world to promote Islamic revival and to create societies based on the Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

Convinced that these noble objectives can only be achieved through the participation of all Muslims, including Muslim Women who constitute half of the Islamic Ummah;

Having taken note of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society held, at the expert level, at the kind invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran on 17 to 19 Zul Qaadah 1415H (17-19 April 1995) in implementation of Resolution No. 10/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Having taken note of the provision of the report of the Secretary General on the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;

Expressing its appreciation for the good preparation and coordination among the OIC Member States in this respect;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Confirms the decision of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to submit the results of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society, held in Tehran on 17-18 April 1995 to the Islamic Fiqh Academy for review and comments to be submitted to The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers through the General Secretariat, and expresses thanks to the Islamic Republic of Iran for having hosted the Symposium.

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2. Expresses its support for the consultations on women's issues at the Muslim Women Parliamentarians Conference held on 1-3 August 1995 in Islamabad (Pakistan).

3. Reaffirms the position of the Islamic States at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and that the implementation of the documents of the Conference by the Member States will be in accordance with their national constitutions and laws as well as their religious and moral values in such a way so as not to contravene the principles of the true Islamic religion.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO. 14/24-C
ON
CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the Declaration issued by the World Summit on the Child and the Plan of Action which urge the development of national programmes for children;

Recalling resolution 2/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic countries die as a result of diseases from which they may be protected or because of malnutrition; and that other millions suffer from the same circumstances because of famines, drought and armed conflicts;

Having taken note of the report of the Experts Symposium held at the OIC Headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 to prepare a Draft Document on the Rights and Care of the Child in Islam;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World and listened to the views of the representatives of the Member States, bodies and organizations;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 16/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Commends the Declaration on the Rights and Protection of the Child in Islam which was drawn up by the expert-level Meeting held at the General Secretariat headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 and which clearly focused on the teachings of the Islamic faith and the noble values enjoined on us by the Holy Quran and the tradition of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and by which the Muslim Ummah is distinguished from all other peoples of the world. The Declaration is to serve as a reference by which the peoples and governments of this Ummah will be guided in drawing up their child care programmes. It will also serve as a notification to all other peoples of the world of Islam's stand on children's affairs.

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(b) Requests those Member States which have ratified the Convention to take the necessary steps to bring their constitutions, laws and practices in line with the provisions of the Convention.

(c) Supports the concept of "debt relief for developing countries for the sake of child survival and development" as a basic consideration for alleviating the debt burden on developing countries.

(d) Welcomes the concept of 20/20, whereby 20 per cent of national budgets should be devoted to basic social services and the same percentage of Official Development Assistance should be assigned to the same sectors and recommends it to the Member-governments for appropriate implementation.

(e) Calls upon Member States to adopt every necessary measure to prevent any further armed conflicts while considering measures for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and to pay special attention to the needs of children and women, who have been the major victims in recent wars, in particular by allowing, in time of conflict, periods of truce and corridors of peace, for the passage of relief supplies, immunization against diseases and the provision of health services; and by banning the manufacture, stockpiling, import, export and use of land mines. These are weapons whose main victims are among women, children and other civilians and whose devastating effects go on for a long period of time after the conflict is over.

(f) Calls upon Member States to collaborate among themselves and to act individually and collectively, to play a leading role in the international arena and thus serve as a model for what can be achieved for the benefit of children.

2. Also commends the role played by UNICEF since its establishment for the survival, protection and development of children worldwide, particularly in the developing countries; and specially the ongoing cooperation between the OIC and the UNICEF relating to the child care and protection in the OIC countries;

3. Calls upon the international community, particularly the donor countries to provide increased resources to it and to the developing OIC countries to enable them to continue their child care and protection efforts.

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4. Expresses deep concern over the plight of Sudanese child refugees and requests all bodies to exert their maximum efforts in order to assist these child refugees, expedite their return and reuniting them with their families. It also calls for the non-involvement of these children in any armed conflict and not to enlist them in the armed forces or for any other actions which may place their personal safety and security at risk.

5. Decides to convene, at the earliest possible date, the Ministerial Conference on Child and Social Affairs, and assigns the Secretary General to make the necessary consultations with the Member States in this connection, particularly those which have outstanding expertise in this field.

6. Calls on all OIC Member States in cooperation with UNICEF, to undertake a Mid-Decade Review on progress made towards achievement of the World Summit for Children Goals set for the year 2000, to be presented to the OIC Summit scheduled for 1997.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.15/24-C
ON THE
EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF MUSLIM YOUTH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youth;

Fearing the negative influences to which Muslim youth is subjected in general during the various stages of its growth;

Emphasizing the need of Muslim youth for an effort and a comprehensive mechanism to release its energies and develop its capacities in accordance with the noble Islamic values relating to youth;

Having taken note of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and the Fifth Session of COMIAC on the subject:

1. Urges Member States to pursue their efforts to firmly establish Islamic values and the cultural activities stemming therefrom among Muslim youth as a whole.

2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in the spread of Islam among the various categories of youth in many countries.

3. Recommends anew the OIC Secretary General to set up an Expert Group from Member States to ponder the question and make preparations for the first Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers, in coordination with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation.

4. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers reviewing the fields and identifying the practical mechanisms to put into effect this responsibility towards Muslim youth of the Islamic world.

5. Urges the Member States, which have not done so, to expedite response to the Note of the General Secretariat on nominating their representatives at the meeting of the Group of Experts which has been entrusted with pondering the question and preparing for the First Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers, in cooperation with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.16/24-C
ON THE
UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNING OF LUNAR MONTH AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC HOLIDAYS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, for the establishment of a Unified Hijri Calendar for the beginning of Lunar months and the Unification of Islamic Holidays;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 13/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Appeals to all Member States and Islamic institutions to use the time schedules prepared by the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar as a basis for their own calendar.

(b) Calls upon the Member States which do not observe Friday as the weekly holiday and to use the Hijri date to proceed to do so.

(c) Calls upon the member States, the General Secretariat and the Islamic Fiqh Academy to seek the assistance of Islamic jurists and astronomers with a view to reaching an agreement on the unification of the Hijri Calendar.

(d) Reiterates the importance of convening a meeting of the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar and of the other States appropriately joining the Committee to maximize coordination for unifying the beginnings of lunar months and Islamic Holidays in all Islamic countries.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.17/24-C
ON
DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

Also recalling the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, specially Resolution No. 3/6-C (IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Noting that the Babri Mosque with its history spanning five centuries was the subject of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Mosque and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Mosque and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists;

Expressing deep concern at acts of vandalism and violence perpetrated by Hindu extremists in India against the Muslim minority aimed at uprooting the Islamic culture and heritage in India. Also expressing deep anger and indignation at the destruction of the Babri Mosque and resulting killing of thousands of innocent Muslims and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes;

Recalling also the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of Sacred Muslim Places;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 18/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 TO 13 Rajab, 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference):

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(a) Strongly condemns the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists and holds them responsible for this outrageous act of desecration and sabotage.

(b) Expresses deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.

(c) Strongly condemns the systematic killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in various parts of India and expresses deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.

(d) Welcomes, in this respect, the decision made by the Supreme Court of India on 24 October 1994 that "the settlement of disputes were outside its jurisdiction".

(e) Calls upon the Government of India to:

(i) Ensure the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

(ii) Take immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Mosque on its original site, to restore it as a holy place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered religious symbol of the Islamic world.

(iii) Remove the makeshift Hindu temple, put together on the site of the Babri Mosque which is a continuation of the acts of desecration and an affront to the feelings of the Muslims in India and all parts of the Muslim world.

(iv) Take immediate steps to ensure the protection of about 3,000 other Mosques especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO. 18/24-C
ON
DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter concerning the safeguarding of Islamic identity;

Recalling the cultural and architectural history of Bosnia-Herzegovina which shows the harmonious diversity that shapes the identity of Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Noting that the total and horrifying destruction of mosques and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbs aimed at achieving ethnic cleansing constitutes a crime of genocide;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference and UNESCO adopted many resolutions on saving the antiquities, libraries and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Having considered the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 19/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Calls upon the relevant subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to conduct a study aimed at drawing up a programme for rebuilding the libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the assistance of the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

(b) Urges Member States to assist in the rebuilding of the national and university libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

(c) Strongly condemns the destruction of the cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

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(d) Calls upon the Secretary General of the OIC in coordination with the relevant UN bodies and other international institutions to take urgent steps to ensure the safety and the protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina which are the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

(e) Calls upon the OIC Member States to condemn the Serbian aggression, to help the restoration of the Islamic heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, to support the initiatives of the OIC Secretary General on this important issue and to set up a Committee which will start immediately the necessary planning.

2. Commissions the Secretary General to form an Expert Committee which will proceed immediately to make the necessary plans and estimates to preserve Islamic heritage in this country and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.19/24-C ON THE INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITIES IN THE BALKANS AND THE CAUCASUS IN THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY TEXT BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering that the emergence of new independent States in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia, with Muslim populations possessing a valuable Islamic cultural heritage which had been concealed from the rest of the world for many years, has opened new vistas for cooperation among the OIC Member States and enlarged also the OIC field of interest and scope of activities;

Believing in this fact and desiring to promote contact between these Muslim peoples and the rest of the Islamic World, formulate programmes to strengthen the links of these peoples with their Islamic culture and at the same time inform the other Muslim peoples of the great contributions made by the peoples of these new states towards the building of the Islamic civilization;

Taking note of the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 25/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Calls upon the OIC Member States to incorporate into the geography and history textbooks of their schools and other relevant publications information concerning Muslim Communities in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

   (b) Also calls upon the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre to carry out a preliminary study and draw up a work programme on this issue with a view to convening an expert meeting in the near future.

2. Calls on Member States to assist Caucasian peoples in general, particularly the Chechen people, in the field of Arabic language teaching and the teaching of Islamic culture, civilization and history.

3. Supports the envisaged organization by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools of annual training sessions for school teachers from the national Arab Islamic Schools of Balkan peoples so as to assist and encourage these schools, and calls on concerned states and national organizations to assist the Federation in implementing this project.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.20/24-C
ON THE
PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE MUSLIMS IN KOSOVO AND SANJAK

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Noting the total and terrible destruction by the Serbs of economic life and cultural heritage pursuant to their objective of ethnic cleansing;

Considering the great difficulties faced by the citizens of Kosovo and denial of the exercise of their cultural and economic rights;

Referring to the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Economic Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 26/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

   (a) Strongly condemns the Serb aggression against the Muslim Albanian population of Kosovo and Sanjak, aimed at depriving this population of their Islamic identity and culture.

   (b) Urges all OIC Member States and the relevant OIC organizations to help the Albanians in Kosovo and Sanjak to preserve their cultural heritage and Islamic identity against the Serb aggression.

2. Requests the IDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to undertake the study of cultural and economic projects with a view to implementing them to consolidate the links between the populations of these regions and their cultural heritage and identity and ward off the dangers threatening their Islamic identity.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.21/24-C
ON THE
PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Centre and the recommendation of the 20th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the proposal for the establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research in Bangladesh;

Having taken note of the clarifications made by the People's Republic of Bangladesh;

Recognizing the need for the Muslim Ummah to have an Advanced Medical Training and Research Centre;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 14/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

   - Requests the General Secretariat to intensify its on-going contacts with Member States aimed at obtaining their views and comments on the subject and to conduct further research on the technical and financial requirements of the project.

2. Requests all Member States to quickly forward their positive views on the proposal to establish the Centre to the General Secretariat and also request the Secretariat to expedite their efforts in this connection.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.22/24-C
ON THE
PROPOSED PROJECT FOR A NEW CAMPUS FOR THE ZEITOUNA UNIVERSITY IN TUNISIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 20th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Underlining the importance of the role being played by this educational institution which is celebrating this year its thirteenth centennial in the service of Islam and Muslims;

Expressing satisfaction over and appreciation of the efforts rendered by the Government of Tunisia aimed at developing and supporting this University by building a new campus adjacent to Al-Zeitouna Mosque;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Commends the allocation of one million U.S. dollars made by the Islamic Development Bank for the project and recommends that the Bank transfer the said amount in accordance with the mechanism stipulated in the Agreement signed by the Republic of Tunisia and the Bank in 1992.

2. Reiterates its support for the construction of a new campus so as to enable the University to consolidate its educational and cultural role, and its commitment in favour of the implementation of the project.

3. Urges the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to continue extending every financial, material and moral support so that the University can raise the amount of 4,595,000 US Dollars needed in order to speed up the completion of the new campus.

4. Calls on the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank to consider including the project of the new building of the Zeitouna University among the institutions that benefit from the Bank's Islamic Universities Waqf.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.23/24-C
ON THE
DESTRUCTION OF CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the presentation of the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan;

Expresses its deep concern over the Indian armed action on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha of 1415H, which resulted in damages to over 1500 houses and shops and the destruction of holy relics including the Mosque and Islamic Complex at Charar-e-Sharif which was razed to the ground.

1. Strongly deplore the destruction of the 536 years old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious attack against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashmir.

2. Expresses its concern over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civilian residents of Charar-e-Sharif.

3. Urges the international community particularly OIC member states to spare no effort to ensure protection of the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people including their right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions as well as safeguarding their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

4. Requests the Secretary General to establish necessary contacts urgently for evaluating the damage and providing emergency assistance for the reconstruction of the Mosque and the Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.24/24-C
ON THE
TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE CCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, on the Twinning of Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories with Member States' universities;

1. Calls on Member States to implement operative paragraph (1) of Resolution 5/19-C on twinning of Palestinian universities with the universities of Member States, adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. Approves the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs which call for the necessity of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people and students of Palestine through establishing twinning relations between universities in Member States and Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories to enable the latter to overcome their difficulties, confront the Israeli designs aimed at impeding their functioning, fulfil their educational mission in the best manner and contribute to the reinforcement of the Palestinian national authority.

3. Recommends to extend every kind of financial and academic support and assistance to the universities in the occupied territories so that they may be able to play their national and educational role, and supports in particular the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its great importance in supporting the steadfastness of its people and the preservation of the Arab and Islamic heritage of the Al-Quds.

4. Calls upon the Member States to see to it that their universities receive training and academic delegations from the Universities of the occupied Palestinian territories to work in their Universities.

5. Calls upon the Member States to contribute towards training the Palestinian youth in their Universities and exchanging educational delegations in various academic fields, so as to assist the Palestinian Universities

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in performing their tasks during the overall reconstruction of the Palestinian National Authority and elleviate the material and academic difficulties which may emerge.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.25/24-C
ON THE
TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences, and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine;

1. Commends the efforts made by the Commission Entrusted with the Elaboration of Curricula for the Teaching of the History and Geography of Palestine and calls on the General Secretariat and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to expeditiously print and communicate the curricula to the Member States in implementation of the relevant Islamic Resolutions.

2. Calls upon all educational organs and institutions in the Member States to contribute effectively to the teaching of the approved subject of the History and Geography of Palestine for the three levels of education so as to educate the young generations of the Islamic Ummah about the Palestinian territories and the rights of their Arab and Muslim people, and safeguard the Islamic and historic heritage of Palestine and particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

3. Appeals to the Member States and the IDB to contribute to financing the costs of printing the approved curricula in the three OIC languages as well as in the national languages of non-Arabic-speaking States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.26/24-C
ON THE
EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, AND OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation issued by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, concerning educational situation in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and Occupied Syrian Golan;

1. Condemns the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural organs and institutions in the occupied Palestinian territories aimed at denying the Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity and sever their relation with their education and history, and distort their culture to serve the designs of occupation.

2. Appeals to the Member States to support the efforts of the Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at promoting the educational process in the occupied Palestinian territories over the transitional period, and to provide it with technical and financial means for the development of the necessary curricula for all educational levels.

3. Calls upon Member States to promptly extend every kind of academic and financial assistance and support to the educational sector in the occupied Palestinian territories so that it may fulfill its mission in the reconstruction of the Palestinian national institutions and so that the educational institutions may contribute to the establishment of the Palestinian people's national authority on their homeland, and as a further enhancement to Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people.

4. Calls upon Member States to extend every necessary assistance to provide the financial requirements for the promotion of the educational process in the occupied territories in general and in the City of Al-Quds in particular, in view of the great difficulties faced by education in the holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authority aimed at the judaization of the City and at severing it from its Arabo-Islamic environment.

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5. Condemns the Israeli acts of repression against and the closure of educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, and in particular the banning of the Syrian textbooks and educational system, barring Syrian students from pursuing their studies in Syrian universities, depriving the Syrian students who pursue their higher education in the Arab Republic of Syria of their right to return, imposing the Hebrew Language on the Syrian students, imposing curricula which incite to hatred, hostility and religious fanaticism, laying off Syrian teachers, all of which constitute acts which flagrantly violate the Fourth Geneva Convention signed on 12 August 1949, on the protection of citizens in times of war, and which in fact but give further staying power to the resistance of the Syrian Arab people in the face of the Israeli practices aimed at the obliteration of their Arab cultural identity; it condemns the continuation of settlement expansion in the occupied Syrian Golan and the measures against the population whereby Israel is practising intellectual and cultural terrorism against Syrian nationals, and declares its support for the maintenance of the Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of educational and cultural requirements.

6. Appeals to the international specialized organs and institutions to oppose this Israeli policy which violates international law and conventions and the Universal Human Rights Declaration.

7. Recommends the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly the UN and its specialized agencies, mainly the UNESCO and UNRWA with the purpose of giving assistance to the PLO and providing the necessary support for the development and updating of curricula at all educational levels. This is to be done within the framework of the establishment of the Palestinian national authority which is impeded by financial difficulties resulting from a deficit in terms of currently available resources to meet the requirements for the development of academic life in the occupied Palestinian territories.

8. Invites the Member States to extend all necessary facilities to the Palestinian students so as to enable them to enroll in their universities and specialized institutes and thus help them complete their university studies and also underlines the need to increase the number of scholarships and seats for the benefit of the Palestinian youth in the Islamic States and particularly in the fields of higher studies, technical, technological and teacher training.

9. Calls for extending support to the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its vital importance in strengthening the resistance of the Palestinian people and enabling them

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to continue their university studies and also calls for extending all the technical and financial assistance necessary for the university to develop and settle its problems so that it may open new branches and discharge its educational mission in an optimal manner.

10. Expresses its high appreciation for the role played by the Palestinian schools and universities in the preservation of the Palestinian culture and heritage and in confronting the measures adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organs in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

11. Reaffirms the need to implement the recommendation addressed to Islamic Universities' managements to receive training and academic missions from the universities of the occupied territories to work in their universities for short periods .

12. Recommends to provide all kinds of financial and academic assistance and support to the universities of the occupied territories in implementation of the successive Islamic Conferences, and to work for the establishment of a Centre for Higher Studies in the occupied Palestinian territories.

13. Calls for support to the steadfastness of the Syrian people in the occupied Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and proclaims its support for the maintenance of Syrian Arab educational programmes and the provision of educational and cultural requisites.

14. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.27/24-C
ON THE
PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND ITS HUMAN HERITAGE AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the earlier resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendation of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the preservation of the Islamic character of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its human heritage;

1. Reiterates all earlier Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character of Al-Quds and its human heritage.

2. Condemns the aggressive and expansionist policies of the Zionist enemy and particularly its policy which seeks to establish further settlements and to transfer and resettle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which are policies aimed at seriously altering in their demographic and historic nature and judaizing them, which may jeopardize the Peace Process and represents a flagrant violation of international law and of the relevant U.N. and Security Council Resolutions.

3. Calls for the continuation of action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to forcing Israel to abrogate its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, reaffirming the City's Arabo-Islamic chracter and reject its annexation or judaization, pursuant to the relevant resolutions of international legality, and particularly the UN Security Council's resolutions No. 465 and 478.

4. Requests the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly with the UNESCO to prevent the Israeli authorities from demolishing the buildings around the Al-Quds Holy Shrine demand that they close the tunnel and stop their excavation works especially on the south side of the Holy Shrine whose objective is to destroy the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and erect their alleged temple on its site.

5. Recommends that an information seminar be organized on the City of Al-Quds particularly under the current situation so as to inform public opinion of imminent threats to the City, and the need to safeguard the Islamic and Christian Shrines and guarantee the right of worship for all believers.

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6. Urges the General Secretariat and the OIC Member States to extend every material assistance to enable the Palestinian people to face up to the Israeli challenges and schemes aimed at obliterating religious monuments of the Holy City of Al-Quds, and reaffirms the need for extending all sorts of support and assistance to the residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the repairing of their houses, support to their steadfastness and salvaging the Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

7. Commends, in this context, the efforts being exerted by Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the Chairmanship of King Hassan II, the Monarch of the Kingdom of Morocco.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.28/24-C
ON THE
ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST
ISLAMIC SHRINES IN AL-KHALIL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Reaffirming the objectives of the Charter of the OIC aimed at ensuring coordination for the safeguard and liberation of the Holy places;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences on the Unified Stand Against the Profanation of Islamic Sanctities and Values, in particular resolution 3/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and 17/21-C of the Twenty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its grave concern over the schemes being devised against the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil with the aim of Judaizing it, seizing part of it and preventing worshippers from entering it;

Recalling Security Council resolution number 904 (1994) on the Massacre in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil;

1. Strongly condems the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, in particular, the massacre perpetrated by the settlers against Palestinian worshippers in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Ramadan 1414H killing tens of them.

2. Strongly condemns the aggressive Israeli scheme for the partition of the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and building a Jewish Synagogue therein, and which constitutes an aggression against Islamic sanctities and feelings and a violation of all international Conventions and Charters in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

3. Requests Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international fora to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure its access for Muslims and to preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only as it has been through the ages; it warns Member States against any slackness in this regard as this would encourage Israel to undermine the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines.

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4. Calls upon Member States to ensure the restoration of the old district in Al-Khalil, to safeguard the heritage and civilization of this historical city and its residents of the Palestinian families in an effort to counter Jewish colonization.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.29/24-C
ON THE
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul; and the recommendations of the Thirteenth meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre (Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 23-24 November 1996);

Commending the First Islamic International Festival of Artisans at Work (Islamabad, October 1994) and the Bosnia Herzegovina Exhibition organized by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul on the occasion of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Report of the Director General of the Centre on its activities and future plans of action; the Conference:

1. Commends the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of Culture and Islamic Heritage in the optimal way, thus warranting satisfaction with and appreciation of the efforts exerted in this respect.

2. Approves the report submitted by the Centre on its activities and future plan of action as well as the report and recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Board of Directors of the Centre, and the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre made at the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

3. Expresses its appreciation for the diverse activities carried out by the Centre with the aim of raising the awareness of world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and for the efforts it exerts for the maintenance and preservation of that heritage.

4. Requests IRCICA in Istanbul to make contacts with Member States to prepare an exhibition on Islamic heritage and culture pursuant to the relevant resolutin of the Seventh Islamic Summit, aimed at publicizing the different /...

dimensions of that culture and its role in building human civilization and its values and ideals.

5. Expresses thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal for his noble gesture by awarding the General Director of the Centre the First Level Independence Medal in recognition of his efforts and contributions in the service of Islamic culture and in achieving Islamic solidarity.

6. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for generously hosting the Thirteenth Session of the Board of Directors of the Centre in Amman under the high patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan Ibn Talal, the noble Crown Prince of Jordan.

7. Welcomes the Centre's initiative to hold an international Symposium on "Islamic Civilization in Western Africa" under the patronage of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in Dakar, in the period 26-30 December 1996, in cooperation with the Fundamental Institute for Black Africa (IFAN) and the contribution of the Senegalese Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Culture.

8. Welcomes also the Centre's initiative to hold the first international seminar on "Arabesque in the Islamic handicrafts", in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, in the period 4-11 January 1997 in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture in Syria and with the support of UNESCO.

9. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country (The Republic of Turkey) and to the other Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the voluntary material and moral support they are extending to the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.

10. Approves the appointment of Dr. Mohamed Abdul Hafeth Hilmi, member of the Arabic Language Academy in Cairo, as member of the Board of Directors of the Centre from the Arab Republic of Egypt in replacement of the late Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Issa.

11. Expresses its thanks to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions in the budget of the Centre in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and calls on the Member States in arrears with their contributions to follow them in compliance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.30/24-C
ON THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the earlier Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH);

Having considered the report submitted by the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage,

1. Approves the report of the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage including its work plan.

2. Addresses its thanks to the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, for their moral and material support to the Commission and sponsoring its projects.

3. Expresses its appreciation to the efforts exerted by the Chairman of the Commission, HRH Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz in order to realize its objectives.

4. Expresses its satisfaction to note that the Commission's activities contribute to promoting general awareness on the preservation of the Islamic cultural, artistic and architectural heritage and its cooperation with IRCICA in implementing the architectural workshops on the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Commends the efforts of the Commission to assist calligraphers, artists and archivists from the Member States in upgrading their skills.

6. Appeals to the Member States to pay regularly their contributions and settle their arrears in the budget of the Commission.

7. Expresses thanks to the Member States which have paid their arrears in the budgets of the Commission, in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit

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Conference, particularly the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the State of the United Arab Emirates. It calls on States having arrears to follow suit in this regard.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO.31/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Fiqh Academy;

Recalling again the Statute of the Academy, its goals and objectives, and the general plan adopted by the Academy Council at its first session held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah for unifying the Muslim Ummah and aligning its ranks so that it may remain glorious and impregnable through its faith, enlightened with its Shari'ah, constantly strong and able to meet present-day challenges and face contemporary problems;

Expressing its appreciation of the resolutions, recommendations and interpretations adopted by the Islamic Fiqh Academy at its previous sessions.

Following with increased interest the activities and achievements of the Academy with particular reference to the period following the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Commending the Academy's sustained efforts to implement its various projects, foremost among which are the Fiqh Encyclopaedia of Economic Affairs and Transactions, the Comprehensive Index of Fiqh Rules, the heritage revival projects, the Glossary of Fiqh terminology, the simplification of Fiqh, as well as its valuable efforts exerted in the exercise of the functions previously assigned to the Islamic International Law Commission;

Expressing satisfaction at the efforts of the Academy in convening scholarly seminars, conferences and meetings jointly with Islamic organizations and institutions of Member States, as well as its sustained endeavours to enhance cooperation with relevant Universities and scientific institutes;

Welcoming the efforts it has exerted in the exchange of scientific information thus making headway towards the desired coordination and complementarity between the Islamic scientific institutions working in the field of Fiqh.

Having considered the report submitted by His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Mohammed Habib Ben Khodja, the Secretary General

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of the Islamic Fiqh Academy in Jeddah in which he reviewed the various activities and achivements which were accomplished last year as well as the projects which will be carried out in future in the fiqh, economic, academic and intellectual fields in particular.

1. Commends the efforts of the Secretary General and the staff of the General Secretariat of the Academy and the books and documents it has published, particularly the Academy's Journal which is now at its twenty-third volume.

2. Stresses the need to examine the results achieved by the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society, held on 17-18 April 1995 and submit relevant observations thereon to the twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and to the next Islamic Summit Conference.

3. Exhorts the Member States to pay their contributions in the budget of the Academy and to continue supporting it so as to enable it to accomplish its tasks as required in the service of Islam and the vital causes of the Islamic Ummah.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.32/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND
ITS WAQF

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolution No.31/7-C(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Brotherhood and Revival), held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in 1415H (1994) in which it reiterated the importance of the tasks of the ISF and its objectives which aim at promoting Islamic solidarity through contribution towards religious, cultural and scientific programmes and projects, in the Member States or in favour of Muslim communities and minorities in the Non-Member States;

Recalling Resolution No. 32/23-C adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the ICFM held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea in December, 1995 which underlined the important noble objectives of the Fund which represent a lofty symbol of the joint Islamic determination of the Member States;

Noting with appreciation the achievements of the Fund during the past 21 years, confirming Islamic solidarity extending support to official and popular institutions in charge of the affairs of culture, higher education, Islamic guidance and youth welfare in all parts of the Islamic World;

Noting with satisfaction the mobilization of a significant part of the capital of the ISF Waqf and stressing the necessity of making every effort to complete the Waqf's capital to reach US$ 100 million in order to provide income which would enable the Fund to realize self-financing of its annual budgets;

Having considered the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF on the financial constraints and obstacles faced by the Fund when financing its budgets and executing its annual programmes, due to the depletion of its resources, which resulted in halting several of its annual activities;

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1. Urges the Member States to pledge annual donations, according to their means, for the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the Waqf's Fund.

2. Expresses deep thanks and appreciation to the Member States which have extended generous and regular donations to the Fund and its Waqf without which it would have been impossible for the Fund to carry out its missions in favour of the Islamic Ummah.

3. Approves the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF.

4. Endorses the Permanent Council's approval of the closing accounts of the ISF for the financial year 1994/1995 and the budget estimates for the financial year 1996/97.

5. Calls upon the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue extending assistance to the cultural, social and educational projects in the Islamic world and according priority attention to projects approved by the Islamic Summit Conferences and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

6. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council, its Chairman, its Board of Trustees, its Chairman and the Executive Bureau of the Fund for the efforts they exert in order to realize the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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RESOLUTION NO.33/24-C
ON THE
ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning ISESCO;

Having taken cognizance with appreciation, of the report submitted by the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) on the activities of the Organization;

1. Commends the accomplishments made by ISESCO in the fields of education, science, culture and communication which benefited most Member States. It requests ISESCO to carry on its efforts for the achievement of its lofty goals;

2. Praises also the efforts of the Director General of ISESCO in the field of consolidating and developing relations of cooperation with Islamic, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, which emphasized ISESCO's international radiance and credibility and provided it with more important financial resources which contributed to the implementation of extremely important programmes and activities; it also commends ISESCO's Director General for appointing a Permanent Representative at the OIC General Secretariat to ensure coordination in such a way as to serve the Member States, educationally, scientifically and culturally.

3. Expresses its appreciation of the Special Islamic Programme on Literacy and Basic Training for all in Islamic Countries, and its Quranic script programme, and calls for extending the project to cover the rest of the Islamic countries. It calls for supporting the Organization with a view to realizing this cultural pioneering project.

4. Expresses satisfaction at the efforts of the Organization in supporting the Islamic University in Niger, and requests it to continue its efforts and invites ISESCO to extend this support to cover other Islamic institutes and universities.

5. Emphasizes the importance of the initiative of the Organization to establish Al-Quds Al-Sharif Unit and the activities carried out to safeguard the cultural properties

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in Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as the support extended to educational, cultural and scientific institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory.

6. Commends the establishment, by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), of the Sarajevo Unit and the activities carried out in the area of supporting the educational, cultural and scientific institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It expresses appreciation to the Director General of the Islamic Organization for his endeavours aimed at supporting the educaitonal, scientific and cultural efforts and objectives of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7. Highlights the commendable efforts of the Organization in the field of perceptive studies at the educational, scientific and cultural levels of the Islamic world aimed at reviewing its medium-term plan for the years (2000-2009) which will take it to the threshold of the Twenty-first Century, and enable it to confront the educational, scientific and cultural challenges which face the Islamic Ummah, and contribute to the flourishing of knowledge and promoting the cultural identity of the Islamic Ummah.

8. Expresses its appreciation of the draft strategy for the development of Science and Technology prepared by ISESCO in cooperation with the Standing Committee for scientific and technological cooperation, and commends the efforts of the Islamic Organization to draw up a strategy for developing science and technology in the Islamic World. It calls upon it to continue its contacts and consultations with Member States to finalise this strateg and submit a detailed report thereon to the next Session of the Conference of Foreign and Islamic Summit.

9. Invites ISESCO as an OIC institution specialised in education, science and culture and in laying down the implementation mechanisms of a cultural strategy for the Islamic world, to draw up an integrated plan for these mechanisms so that they may be implemented, and to submit this plan to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers and to the institutions concerned with cultural affairs in Member States for study and approval and to coordinate with the Member States to take the necessary steps for including this strategy within their national cultural policies.

10. Highlights the existing coordination between the OIC and the Islamic Organisation to hold a meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Islamic World with a view to implementing the Cultural Stretegy as recommended by the Fifth Session of COMIAC under the chairmanship of H.E. President Abdou Diouf.

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11. Welcomes the efforts of the Organization to hold Islamic symposia and conferences aimed at caring for the members of Muslim communities overseas as well as paying attention to the conditions of Islamic cultural centres in Europe and notes with appreciation the support and assistance extended by ISESCO to Muslim minorities in the world by sending teachers to educational institutions, supporting the latter by providing them with curricula and Islamic books, as well as holding specialized training courses for teachers and inspectors.

12 Praises the programme being implemented by ISESCO, within the framework of cooperation between the OIC-UN systems, regarding the project of Basic Education and Training from the perspective of Human Resource Development in Islamic Countries, and invites the Islamic institutions, in particular the Islamic Development Bank, to co-finance this project. It also commends the efforts and programmes of the Islamic Organization in the field of promoting dialogue among various cultures, civilizations and realigions as well as closing the gap between Islamic doctrines.

13. Urges the Member States which have not yet ratified the Islamic convention on equivalence of diplomas to hasten to do so.

14. Invites the Member States which have not yet joined ISESCO to set to join it and to participate effectively in its projects and programs and calls on the General Secretariat, in coordination with ISESCO, to exert its good offices for realizing this objective.

15. Urges the Member States which have not yet settled their contributions to the Islamic Organisation's budget to honour their financial obligations in order to enable the Organization to implement its programmes and educational, scientific and cultural projects which are highly important for joint Islamic action for the preservation of the Islamic identity and the warding off of the external challenges.

16. Appreciates the compliance of the Director General of ISESCO with the recommendation made by the Islamic Committee for Economic, Culture and Social Affairs at its twentieth session for sending a specialized ISESCO delegation to the areas of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to take stock of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in these areas and for submitting a detailed report in this respect to the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

17. Praises the content of the report which is realistic and comprehensive in indicating the urgent basis needs of Palestinian educaitonal institutions, and the cooperation and fruitful as well as effective coordeination

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between the ISESCO delegation and the Naitonal Palestinian Committee for education, science and culture to implement this report in the best possible manner.

18. Invites Member States to extend assistance and to respond to the basic necsssary needs of these educational and scientific institutions in the areas under the Palestinian National Authority.

19. Expresses thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of Kingdom of Morocco, the seat country, for his lofty patronage of ISESCO and continuous support to it and to its activities so as to perform in the best circumstances the great cultural missions entrusted to it.

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RESOLUTION NO.34/24-C
ON
THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent;

Having considered the Report of the committee's Twelveth Meeting held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

1. Urges the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives.

2. Invites all the Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the efforts of the Committee so that it may implement its programmes.

3. Calls for exerting efforts regarding refugees and detainees and povide for their care and protection in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner's Office for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant regional and international organizations;

4. Expresses profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for extending support and facilities to the Committee during the period of its establishment.

5. Approves the report of the 12th Session of the ICIC.

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RESOLUTION NO.35/24-C
ON THE
SPORTS FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF);

Having considered with appreciation the initiative of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and General President of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to organize charitable football games between the Sarajevo Team and select teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aimed at supporting the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the 25th Anniversary of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Having considered the report submitted by the General Secretariat of the Federation on this subject;

Having been informed by the ambitious future plan recommended to be implemented by the Experts Committee and approved by the 7th Summit Conference.

1. Urges the Member States to take interest in all the future activities of the Federation as well as the coming tournaments of the Islamic Solidarity Games, in particular the organizing of the first tournament which will be held under the auspices of the Federation.

2. Expresses appreciation and thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, President General of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for his great interest in the Sports Federation of Islamic Solidarity Games; his sponsorship of the Federation's activities aimed at realizing its noble objectives; and for graciously hosting the meeting of the Experts Committee on Youth and Sport of the Muslim States at the Federation's Headquaters in Riyadh on 5-7 Shaaban 1414H (16-18 January 1994) to draw up a conception for implementing resolution No.5/6-C (IS);

3. Expresses thaks to the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation for planring to orgnaize the first training course on Sports Organization and Management, in Arabic, at its Headquarters in Riyadh in Shaaban, 1417H (December 1996).

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4. Calls on the Member States to fulfill their commitments to the Federation to enable it to perform its activities.

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RESOLUTION NO.36/24-C
ON THE
WORLD FEDERATION OF ARAB ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions of the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation made by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools;

Having considered the report submitted by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Scholls.

1. Recommends to the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the Federation's Plans and Projects and to extend to it all possible assistance required for the implementation of these plans and projects, and particularly:

(a) To continue support for the holding of the Training courses for the Teachers of the Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and Balkans.

(b) To contribute to the printing of the book for teaching Arabic for non-Arabic speakers that had been prepared by the Federation and its distribution among the Muslim children.

(c) To invite the IDB to continue contribution to printing books for Afghan children.

(d) To support the Open Complementary Studies Institute in Khartoum in order that it may continue its activity as well as the Ndjamena Teachers Institute in Chad.

2. Recommends to support the project of the Supreme Examinations' Council of the Arab-Islamic Schools that has been established by the Federation, with the participation of the League of the Islamic Universities, with a view to placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well known Islamic universities;

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3. Recommends also that the Federation be supported so as to play an effective role in assisting Afghan educational institutions, such as schools and universities, and rebuild schools and higher institutes destroyed by war in Afghanistan;

4. Addresses sincere thanks and appreciation, and also on behalf of the Federation, to the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for its continuous support to the Arab and Islamic education in various parts of the world.

RESOLUTION NO. 37/24-C
ON
DAWAH ACTIVITIES AND THE REACTIVATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF ISLAMIC ACTION.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference.

Recalling the Dakar Declaration issued by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference,

Recalling also of the Casablanca Declaration adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit;

Recalling resolution 32/21-C of the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers approving the development of an Islamic Dawah strategy in keeping with the provisions of the Cultural Strategy Document approved by the Sixth Summit Conference;

Recalling also the various resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences, including Resolution No. 36/7-C(IS), whose para (3) stipulated calling on the Secretary General to finalize the Strategy for Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawah;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organisation;

1. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action develop a mechanism for the accession thereto of Islamic organizations which fulfill membership requirements.

2. Also recommends all Islamic organisations to cooperate with the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action.

3. Requests the Islamic Cultural Centres and the Dawah Centres to educate the Pilgrims regarding the rites and ceremonies of Pilgrimage, prior to their arrival in the Holy Places to perform the Hajj duty.

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4. Expresses appreciation to His Eminence, the Sheikh of Al-Azhar, and the Indonesian Government, the Malaysian Government and the International Islamic Call Society in Tripoli for hosting the Eighth, Ninth, the Tenth and the Eleventh meetings of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the field of Dawah respectively.

5. Also expresses appreciation for the approval by the 23rd ICFM, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea from 9 to 12 December, 1995, of the Draft Strategy of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawah vide Resolution 37/23-C.

6. Requests the Member States to take the necessary steps for incorporating this Strategy within their implemented national policies in the various educational, information, Islamic Dawah and other fields as a method to be followed concerning Joint Islamic Action.

7 Calls on the Secretary General to convene further Islamic symposia on Islamic Culture and Dawah following confirmation of the usefulness of the previous symposia held in Niamey, Kuala Lumpur, Moscow, Sydney and Toronto.

8. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its valuable material assistance it provides for the Islamic Symposia held by the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

9. Also express thanks to the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Dawa Society and other Islamic Institutions for supporting the General Secretariat to hold its Islamic Symposia.

10. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action, in coordination with the competent authorities in Member States, take care of women and pay attention in the field of Dawah instruction.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.

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Annex VI

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

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REPORT
OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
TO THE
TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)
JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
28 RAJAB - 3 SHAABAN 1417H
9-13 DECEMBER, 1996

1. The Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), met in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab - 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996) to examine the Agenda items referred to it by the Conference.

2. At the outset of its proceedings the Committee elected its Bureau and decided it would be composed of the same Member States as that of the Plenary, namely:

Chairman	: - Republic of Indonesia.
Vice-Chairmen	: - Republic of Gabon. - Republic of Yemen. - State of Palestine.
Rapporteur	: - Republic of Guinea.

3. The Committee sessions were chaired by H.E Ambassador Hadi Wayarabi of the Republic of Indonesia.

4. The General Secretariat was represented by Ambassador Dr. El-Hedi Hnetish, High Commissioner in charge of Administration and Finance, Mr. Abdullah Abdi Hersi, Director of Administration and Finance and Mr. Djibrilla Hima, Internal Auditor.

5. The Chairman opened the proceedings with a statement in which he welcomed the delegations and wished them a pleasant stay in the Republic of Indonesia. The Chairman sought the assistance and cooperation of the delegations to facilitate his task in a positive atmosphere of true Islamic brotherhood and sincere determination to endeavour to achieve the noble objectives of Islamic solidarity.

6. The Committee then proceeded to examine the agenda items referred to it and agreed to submit to the Plenary, for adoption, the draft resolutions annexed to the present report.

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I. Report of the Twenty-fifth Session of the OIC Permanent Finance Committee: Item 62 of the Agenda of the 24th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

7. After reviewing document No. PFC/25-96/REP.Final), containing the Report of the Permanent Finance Committee, and document ICFM/24-96/AF/D.1 which contained the Secretary General's report, the Committee requests the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to comply with and implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Permanent Finance Committee. The Committee further requests the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to comply with the following:

a) The General Secretariat should not exceed the allocations approved in each and every chapter of the budget.

b) The mistakes made in the travel and overtime allowances should not be repeated and that the provisions of the Personnel Regulations should be complied with.

c) The General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs should not bear the educational expenses of children of the staff in the nursery and preparatory school stages.

d) The Secretary General is requested to form a Committee under the chairmanship of an Assistant Secretary General to examine the appointment and promotion process while abiding by the administrative rules stipulated in the Personnel Regulations. The Secretary General is also requested to inform Member States of vacant positions, taking into consideration equitable geographical distribution.

e) The Committee affirms the right of the Financial Control Organ to practice its right to audit the administrative measures relative to Personnel Affairs and ascertain their compliance with the approved allocations and the administrative procedures under Article (85) paragraph 4 of the Financial Regulations and the General Secretariat is expected to provide it with all the necesssary facilities to carry out its work.

f) The General Secretariat is requested to comply with the financial regulations concerning the allowances of members of the Finance Control Organ provided that such allowances shall not exceed the budget allocations of the General Secretariat.

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II. Budgets of the OIC General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the Financial Year 1996/97: Item 63 of the Agenda of the 24th Session of the ICFM.

8. After reviewing the recommendations of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee concerning the proposed budgets for the fiscal year 1996/97, and the Report of the Secretary General (Doc. No. ICFM/24-96/AF/D.2) explaining the financial difficulties faced by the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs the Committee recommended that the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for the fiscal year 1996/97 be approved according to the attached Resolution No.2/24-AF.

9. The Committee urged the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs to continue their efforts for the rationalization of expenditure wherever possible.

10. The Committee also urged the Member States to ensure regular and prompt settlement of their mandatory contributions, consistent with the OIC Charter, so as to enable the Organisation to assume its tasks and mission towards the Islamic Ummah, in a proper way.

III. Financial situation of the OIC and the problem of the accumulation of arrears of mandatory contributions of Member States: Item 64 of the Agenda of the 24th Session of the ICFM.

11. The Committee examined the Report of the Secretary General (Doc. ICFM/24-96/AF/D.9) and expressed deep concern over the precarious financial conditions facing the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs due to the delay or non-payment by most Member States of their mandatory contributions until the arrears accumulated to US$95.3 million (Doc. No.ICFM/24-96/AF/D.9) in accordance with the attached resolution no. 3/24-AF.

IV- Creating a post of an External Financial Controller.

12. The Committee considered the two studies submitted to it by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the General Secretariat concerning the creation of a post of External Financial Controller. Following deliberations on the subject, the Committee recommended that the two studies should be communicated to the Member States to elicit their views and proposals, preparatory to submitting them to an Intergovernmental Group of Experts to consider them and make its recommendations thereon to the next Session of the Permanent Finance Committee for submission to the 25th Session of the ICFM.

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V- Quotas of Member States' contributions to the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs.

13. With regard to the recent OIC membership of a number of States, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries is entrusted with preparing a study, taking into account the request of the Republic of Yemen, on the quotas of Member States' contributions to the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs. The Member States are requested to provide the Center with the necessary information as soon as possible. The Centre is expected to present this study to the General Secretariat as soon as possible. Each new Member State is to pay 1% of the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs until the requested study is completed, and such payments will be entered into the miscellaneous receipts account.

VI- Member States' reservations.

14. Algeria reaffirms the reservation it had expressed about the 1995/96 budget concerning its opposition to the 7% increase in the budget of the OIC General Secretariat. Algeria reaffirms its commitment to settling its financial contributions to the General Secretariat according to the 1994/95 budget.

Algeria affirms that membership in the Organisation does not mean automatic membership in the OIC branches unless so requested by the Member State concerned, and that the OIC Charter does not provide that the State member of the Organisation shall bear the budgets of the Subsidiary Organs of which it is not a member.

VII- Conclusion.

15. At the conclusion of the proceedings, the Committee expressed its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the generous hospitality and for the excellent facilities it provided to ensure the success of the Conference.

16. The Committee also expressed its profound gratitude to its Chairman for the skilled manner and wisdom with which he steered its proceedings, which contributed so much to the success of its deliberations.

17. The Committee addressed its thanks to the General Secretariat for the clarifications and various efforts contributed towards the success of its deliberations.

Ambassador Hadi Wayarabi
Chairman
of the Committee for
Administrative and Financial Affairs

Jakarta, 29 Rajab, 1417H
(10 December, 1996)

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RESOLUTION NO.1/24-AF
ON
THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab - 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the Report of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee and the Reports of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Sessions of the Finance Control Organ on the Final Accounts of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for the financial years 1994/95 and 1995/96, and the comments and replies of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs;

Requests the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to implement the recommendations made in the Report of the Permanent Finance Committee and to comply with them.

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RESOLUTION NO.2/24-AF
ON THE
BUDGETS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
AND THE SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1996/97

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab - 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having taken cognizance of the recommendations of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Permanent Finance Committee regarding the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the financial year 1996/97;

Having examined the budget proposals of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for the financial year 1996/97;

Being aware of the financial difficulties faced by the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs in implementing their programmes and the resolutions of the Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/6-AF(IS) adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference which requested the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to provide the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs with the necessary means to implement the programmes and resolutions which it adopts while bearing in mind the wish to develop the Organisation and to promote its coordination role;

Being aware of the economic realities and financial difficulties facing some Member States;

1. Adopts the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for 1996/97 to be financed totally by mandatory contributions of Member States in accordance with The Charter and Financial Provisions as follows:

-	General Secretariat	US$10,628,031
-	Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD) Jeddah.	US$1,304,300
-	Islamic Fiqh Academy, (IFA) Jeddah.	US$1,650,000
-	Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTIC), Ankara	US$2,000,000
-	Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT) Dhaka.	US$2,200,000

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- Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture - Istanbul (the approved increase is to be allocated exclusively to the activities programmes Chapter).	US$1,910,000
- International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH), Istanbul.	US$ 641,000
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca.	US$1,172,214

2. Urges the Member States to settle their contributions towards the budgets of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs for 1996/97 in order to enable the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to carry out the tasks entrusted to them.

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RESOLUTION NO.3/24-AF
ON THE
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE OIC AND THE PROBLEM OF ACCUMULATION OF ARREARS OF MANDATORY CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation), held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 28 Rajab - 3 Shaaban, 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Being aware of the important role played by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference through its General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs, at both Islamic and International levels for consolidating Islamic solidarity and cooperation and for defending the causes of the Islamic Ummah;

Expressing deep concern over the serious financial difficulties of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs due to the delay in payment or non-payment of contributions by some Member States, a situation that led to the accumulation of arrears upto to more than US$95 million (Doc. No. ICFM/24-96/AF/D.9);

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary General on the financial situation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the problem of accumulation of arrears of mandatory contributions (Doc. No. ICFM/24-96/AF/D.9);

1. Decides to constitute a Tripartite Ministerial Committee consisted of the Host Country, the Summit Chairman State, the 24th Session of the ICFM Chairman State, and with the participation of the Secretary General, to consider the necessary means for solving this issue, propose appropriate ways for this purpose consistent with Resolution 3/23-AF and the other relevant resolutions and submit its recommendations to the 25th Session of the ICFM.

2. Requests the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs to take more effective measures in order to contact member states at the highest level and urge them to pay their contributions and arrears.

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3. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the matter and present a report thereon to the Twenty-fifth Session of the ICFM.
